

THE TETI CEMETERY AT SAQQARA

Volume I

The Tombs of Nedjet-em-pet, Ka-aper and Others



N. Kanawati and A. Hassan

With contributions by P. Bentley, A. Cavanagh, N. Charoubim,
A. McFarlane, S. Shafik, K. Sowada, E. Thompson, N. Victor

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The Australian Centre for Egyptology

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PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The reign of Teti and the early Sixth Dynasty represent an interesting and important period in Egyptian history which witnessed religious and administrative reforms, foreign activities, unusual events in the palace and major artistic achievements. However, our understanding of this period is restricted due to the incomplete excavations and/or documentation of the Teti Cemetery. While some of the brilliantly decorated mastabas to the north of the pyramid of Teti are accessible or at least available to scholars in publications, other equally important mastabas remain partly or totally unpublished. In addition, an important section of this cemetery has never been investigated and lies under a mound of sand and debris resulting from earlier excavations (see *Pl. I*).

The present excavation to the north of Teti's pyramid is a joint project of the Australian Centre for Egyptology and the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities. Its aims are: a) to carry out an archaeological survey of the cemetery of Teti and to produce a detailed map with tomb locations; b) to excavate the area defined on the east by the temenos wall of the pyramid of Queen Iput, on the west by the mastaba of Shepsi-pu-Ptah and on the south by the mastaba of Nefer-seshem-Ptah; c) to fully publish the results of our excavations as well as complete reports of certain known mastabas in this area which have not received the attention they deserve; d) to undertake a synthesis study of the material from this cemetery pertaining to the Old Kingdom as well as later periods. This will include a detailed examination of the human remains, DNA analysis, carbon dating of certain organic materials and a study of the ceramics and other objects discovered.

The expedition began its work in 1994 with two seasons, May-June and November-December. A third season was conducted in November-December 1995. The current volume records all the Old Kingdom tombs and finds so far cleared. The level above these tombs contained numerous burials of later periods which belonged to modest officials and their families. Material from these burials will appear in a separate volume now in preparation.

In 1995 a grid system was introduced which divided the current excavation site into squares of 5m. x 5m. taking the north-east corner of the mastaba of *K3-gm-n.j* as a starting point to the grid. Beginning with the square closest to that mastaba, the divisions on the N-S line were given alphabetical letters starting with A, while the divisions on the E-W line were assigned arabic numerals starting with 1. From 1995 all finds were located on this grid.

In recording ceramic objects, a number of vessels were examined and recorded as accurately as possible, noting the shape, surface finish, decoration and technology. The colour descriptions are based on *Munsell Soil Colour Charts* (revised ed. 1994, New York) and the fabrics are classified in accordance with the Vienna System (D. Arnold and J. Bourriau, *An Introduction to Ancient Egyptian Pottery* [Mainz, 1993], 168). Pots were examined under a 10x hand lens on a fresh break, although appropriate sections were not always visible on complete vessels. For these, approximate fabric designations are given.

Abbreviations used in the text are as follows, unless otherwise noted: H = maximum height; W = maximum width; L = maximum length; D = diameter; Th = thickness.

During the course of our work we received generous financial support from various institutions without which this project could never have been accomplished. Our most sincere appreciation is extended to the National Geographic Society, the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities, the Australian Research Council, Macquarie University and the Rundle Foundation for Egyptian Archaeology.

The continued and valuable cooperation of the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities is gratefully acknowledged. In this respect special thanks are extended to the Chairman, Professor Dr. Abd el-Halim Nour el-Din, and to the Director General of Giza and Saqqara, Dr. Zahi Hawass. Thanks are also due to the Directors of Antiquities at Saqqara, Mr Yehya Eid and now Mr. Mohamed Hagra, and to the inspectorate personnel for their support and help. We are most appreciative of the competent and unsparing assistance received from our accompanying inspectors, Mr Nour el-Din Abd el-Samad and Mr. Ezat el-Gendi, who greatly facilitated our field work.

A very dedicated team assisted on site and it is a pleasure to acknowledge their individual roles and contributions. Dr. Adel Abd el-Aziz (Fayum), Miss Tracey Callaghan, Mr. Paul Cowie and Miss Jane Roy (Macquarie University) acted as field supervisors. The epigraphic work was carried out by Dr. Ann McFarlane, Mrs. Elizabeth Thompson (Macquarie University) and Mr. Sameh Shafik (Sohag). The finds were recorded by Ms. Karin Sowada (University of Sydney), and the human remains by Mr. Paul Bentley (Macquarie University). Mr. Alan Cavanagh and Mrs. Delma Cavanagh (Newcastle) took charge of the surveying and the architectural measurements. Mrs. Gael Callaghan and Miss Tracey Callaghan (Macquarie University) were responsible for the conservation work.

We would like to express our deep appreciation to all who were involved in the preparation of this report. Mr. Paul Bentley (Macquarie University) was responsible for writing the section on human remains and Dr. Ann McFarlane (Macquarie University) for the architectural descriptions and the colour conventions. Ms. Karin Sowada (University of Sydney) wrote the sections on finds and drew the pottery. The final line drawings of the scenes and inscriptions were executed by Mr. Nabil Charoubim (Cairo) and Mr. Sameh Shafik (Sohag). The architectural drawings are the work of Mr. Alan Cavanagh and Mr. Kas Sroka, (Cashmere Marler & Cavanagh, Newcastle) and of Mr. Naguib Victor (Sydney). The photographs were provided by Mr. Mustafa Abd el-Masud and Mr. Nasser el-Din Abd el-Monem (Egyptian Museum, Cairo). The final artwork for this volume was prepared by Mrs. Joan Pollett and Mrs. Elizabeth Thompson (Macquarie University). The manuscript was edited, with assistance from Miss Joan Beck, Dr. Desmond Bright, Mrs. Joan Pollett and Mrs. Elizabeth Thompson, and produced for printing by Dr. Ann McFarlane.

Naguib Kanawati and Ali Hassan

ABBREVIATIONS

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THE MASTABA OF NEDJET-EM-PET

I THE TOMB OWNER AND HER FAMILY

The Tomb Owner

NAMES

- 1- *Ndt-m-pt*¹ 'Nedjet-em-pet'. The name may mean 'a gift from heaven' or 'one who is protected from heaven'.² The same name is described as *m.s* 3 'her great name' in the inscriptions on side 1 of the sarcophagus.
- 2- *Tjt*³ 'Tit', or *Tjtj*⁴ 'Titi'.

TITLES

- 1- *hm(t)-ntr Nt mhtjt jnb.s wpt wswt* 'priestess of Neith, north of her wall, opener of the ways'. Neith is occasionally described as 'north of the wall',⁵ or 'opener of the ways',⁶ but the combination of the two epithets is uncommon.⁷
- 2- *hm(t)-ntr Hwt-hr nbt nht* 'priestess of Hathor, lady of the sycamore'.⁸
- 3- *rht nswt* 'acquaintance of the king'.⁹

The name *Ndt-m-pt* is rare. It is carried, for example, at Giza by the wives of *Zwf*¹⁰ and *Mrrw-k3.j*,¹¹ and by the mother of *Mnw-ꜥnh*.¹² An abridged form, *Ndt-pt*, is attested for the daughter of *ꜥnh*, also of Giza,¹³ who is probably earlier than the abovementioned examples.¹⁴ More importantly, in the mastaba of *Mrrw-k3.j* his mother is depicted with the name *Ndt-m-pt* and the beautiful name *Tjt*.¹⁵ The infrequency of the name and the beautiful name and the location of *Ndt-m-pt*'s mastaba near that of *Mrrw-k3.j*'s in the Teti Cemetery, leaves little doubt that the owner was *Mrrw-k3.j*'s mother. It is noticed that in her son's tomb *Ndt-m-pt* is only given the title *rht nswt*, while his wife held the priesthoods of both Hathor

¹ Ranke, *Personennamen* 1, 215:7.

² For a discussion see Junker, *Giza* 5, 152.

³ Ranke, *Personennamen* 1, 378:19.

⁴ Ibid, 378:25.

⁵ See for example Junker, *Giza* 2, 162; vol. 6, 244, fig. 104; Duell, *Mereruka*, pl. 46.

⁶ Junker, *Giza* 3, 206-207; vol. 4, 7; vol. 8, 72; Kanawati et al., *Saqqara* 1, pl. 36.

⁷ As in Lepsius, *Denkmäler* II, 87; Junker, *Giza* 4, 7.

⁸ For a study of the priesthood of Hathor see Gillam, *JARCE* 32 [1995], 219ff.

⁹ Brunner, *SAK* 1 [1974], 58ff; Fischer, *Varia*, 8 n.15.

¹⁰ Hassan, *Giza* 5, 257, 259.

¹¹ Junker, *Giza* 9, 70-83, figs. 23, 38; Fischer, *MIO* 7 [1960], 310-12.

¹² Tomb No. 7766 (information courtesy of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston).

¹³ Junker, *Giza* 5, 152, fig. 44.

¹⁴ The type of chair used by the tomb owner and his wife and shown on the panel of the false door (ibid, fig. 45), with bull's legs and the cushion but no back, would suggest an early date. For the latter detail see Cherpion, *Mastabas et hypogées*, 28.

¹⁵ Duell, *Mereruka*, pls. 150, 159, 161, 166-67.

and Neith.¹⁶ This, however, does not mean that the mother did not enjoy these titles at the time, but may indicate an emphasis on the position of *Mrrw-k3.j*'s wife, who was a 'king's daughter of his body' and who is regularly depicted in front of him while the mother is behind him.

The Husband of Nedjet-em-pet

It has been suggested that *Ndt-m-pt*, the mother of *Mrrw-k3.j*, was possibly the same as the wife of *Mrw-k3.j* of Giza.¹⁷ Had the name of the latter's eldest son survived in his tomb, it would have strengthened such a likely identification.

The Son of Nedjet-em-pet

*Mrrw-k3.j*¹⁸ 'Mereruka'. The name is not preserved among the few inscriptions surviving in the tomb of *Ndt-m-pt*. However, since she appears as his mother in *Mrrw-k3.j*'s large nearby mastaba,¹⁹ the kinship is safely established.

The Daughter of Nedjet-em-pet

*Hmt-Rc*²⁰ 'Hemet-Re'. She is depicted on the north wall of room V, clasping her mother's legs. A fragment recovered from the debris below the scene, which may well belong to her, reads: [z3t.s?] smsw(t) jm3hw(t) *Hmt-Rc* 'her eldest daughter, the honoured one, Hemet-Re'.

The Daughter-in-law of Nedjet-em-pet

*Zšzšt*²¹ 'Seshseshet'. Fragments recovered from the debris in room V show the head of a woman and at least three vertical lines of inscriptions above her, each ending with *rn.s nfr Zšzšt* 'her beautiful name, Seshseshet'. As this name is not attributed to *Ndt-m-pt* on her own false door or in *Mrrw-k3.j*'s tomb, it seems likely that this is a representation of the royal princess, *Mrrw-k3.j*'s own wife. The two women appear frequently together in the latter's tomb,²² and it is possible that *Mrrw-k3.j* and his wife were also depicted in his mother's chapel.

II DATING OF NEDJET-EM-PET

As stated above, *Ndt-m-pt* was almost certainly *Mrrw-k3.j*'s mother and was depicted in his tomb. *Ndt-m-pt*'s mastaba is situated immediately east of that of *Špsj-pw-Pth*,²³ and to the north-east of that of *K3-gm-n.j*, opening in the same north-south street as the latter.²⁴ The main mastabas in this cemetery appear to have

¹⁶ Ibid, pls. 46, 88, 150.

¹⁷ Harpur, *Decoration*, 14.

¹⁸ Ranke, *Personennamen* 1, 162:27.

¹⁹ Duell, *Mereruka*, 2 vols., passim.

²⁰ Ranke, *Personennamen* 1, 240:5.

²¹ Ibid, 298:1.

²² Duell, *Mereruka*, pls. 150, 159, 161, 166-67.

²³ Abder-Raziq, *Mélanges* 2, 219ff.

²⁴ Porter - Moss, *Bibliography* 3, pl. 52.

been built during the reign of Teti, although some were presumably completed under Pepy I.²⁵ Two mastabas lying immediately to the west of that of *Ndt-m-pt* should be considered. The first belongs to *Špsj-pw-Pth*²⁶ who, like *Mrrw-k3.j*,²⁷ *K3-gm-n.j*²⁸ and *Nfr-sšm-Pth*,²⁹ was married to a woman with the designation of *z3t nswt nt ht.j*³⁰ who might be a daughter or a descendant of king Teti. *Špsj-pw-Pth* probably belongs to the reign of Teti.³¹ The second mastaba, dated to the same reign, is that of the overseer of Upper Egypt *Nj-k3w-Jzzj*³² who is probably the same individual mentioned in the decree of Teti at Abydos.³³

Suggested date: Reign of Teti, probably late.

III ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES

Pls. 36-38.

The tomb of *Ndt-m-pt* covers a large area and is composed of an entrance vestibule, an open court, a corridor or stairway to the roof and a small antechamber which leads to the offering chamber. Other than blocks of limestone forming the entrance doorway, the false door and elements of the false door niche in the offering chapel, the mastaba is constructed of black mud brick incorporating small stones and pieces of pottery. The upper part is missing and nothing remains of the vaulted mud-brick ceilings which presumably roofed the rooms. Few of the internal walls are preserved above 1.20m., so no heights of walls, ceilings or doorways can be provided. The surface of the base rock on which the mastaba is constructed is quite uneven, and a fill of gravel and sand to level the floor is visible in the offering chamber and in the area surrounding the main shaft. The brick wall between rooms III and V as well as the side walls of the main shaft extend approximately .75m. beneath the floor level of the mastaba.

The streets along the west and north walls were both extensively used for later burials and there is also evidence of intrusive shafts in the tomb itself. In the open court and corridor areas are remains of walls constructed with a mixture of stone, undressed chunks of limestone and mud brick, most of which were probably connected with intrusive shafts. The reconstruction of the original plan is hypothetical but the exclusion of some shafts has been based on several factors. Unlike the retaining walls of the main shaft which rise only .20m. above the present floor level, the side walls of others in room III remain to a height up to 1.00m. above the mastaba floor, and interrupt access from room I to room IV and the offering chamber (room V) which suggest a later use of the area when rubble and

²⁵ Kanawati et al., *Saqqara* 1, 10; Lloyd et al., *Saqqâra Tombs* 2, passim.

²⁶ Quibell - Hayter, *Teti North*, 20-23; Abder-Raziq, *Mélanges* 2, 219ff.

²⁷ Duell, *Mereruka*, pls. 27, 46, 57, 64, 83, 96.

²⁸ von Bissing, *Gem-ni-kai* 1, pl. 21.

²⁹ Capart, *Rue de tombeaux* 2, pls. 91-93.

³⁰ Abder-Raziq, *Mélanges* 2, 224 fig. 4, 227 fig. 6.

³¹ For a date in the middle of Dynasty 6 or later see Porter - Moss, *Bibliography* 3, 518; Baer, *Rank and Title*, 77 [168A].

³² The mastaba remains unpublished. See Kanawati et al., *Saqqara* 1, 8-9.

³³ Goedicke, *Königliche Dokumente*, 37-40, fig. 3; James, *Hieroglyphic Texts* 1, 33, pl. 31.

debris may have filled, at least partly, the courtyard. Some brick courses have also intruded on and damaged the original walls, as has the mouth of the shaft of *Jbj* which was cut under and into the east wall of room IV. Five shafts aligned E-W along the southern part of the mastaba may be assumed to be contemporary with the original building, as they are designed within the structural walls and apparently reached by an adjacent flight of stairs to the roof.

Like the east wall of the mastaba of *Špsj-pw-Pth* on the opposite side of the same street,³⁴ the west and north façades of *Ndt-m-pt*'s tomb were decorated with a panelling of plain compound niches. Constructed in brick, they have an average width of .45-.55m. and a depth at the central niche of .25-.27m. Several of the niches retain fragments of a whitewash which covered a coat of mud plaster bound with straw, and it is possible that both façade walls received the same treatment. Five of these niches are clearly visible on the west wall and three at the western end of the north wall. In the less well preserved eastern part of the north wall, against which later shafts were constructed, can be distinguished the remains of two or three other niches.

The dimensions of the mastaba's superstructure are 11.75m. N-S x 9.60m. E-W. Although a section of the façade north of the entrance still stands to 2.35m., the original height of the external walls cannot be determined. The entrance to *Ndt-m-pt*'s tomb, like many others in this part of the Teti cemetery, was placed at the southern end of the façade. The walls on either side are damaged and therefore no lines or measurements of the entrance doorway can be provided. However, found during the excavation of shaft 8, which lies at the SW corner of the mastaba just south of the entrance, were parts of a limestone lintel, 1.054m. wide x .16m. high,³⁵ and drum, .40m. wide x .135m. thick. Both are inscribed for *Ndt-m-pt* and undoubtedly are elements of the entrance doorway.

The doorway leads into room I, a small chamber 2.40m. N-S x 2.50m. E-W which apparently served as an entrance vestibule. All walls received a coat of brown mud plaster which was overlaid with a yellow tafel plaster mixed with straw and then given a thin layer of creamy whitewash. The NW corner of the room is reasonably well-preserved, standing to a height of 2.10m., and the west and north walls retain a small portion of scenes outlined in red paint. At the south end of the east wall is a doorway .50m. wide x .53m. thick within which are preserved two steps .15-.20m. in height constructed of brick and plastered. The doorway leads to a long, narrow 'corridor', room II, which extends to the external east wall of the mastaba and may originally have housed stairs leading to the roof. It measures 5.25m. E-W x 1.05m. N-S. Between the south walls of rooms I and II and the external south wall are five square shafts, separated by walls of mud brick, which probably date to the original construction.

At the east end of the north wall of room I a recess 1.00m. wide x .15m. deep defines a doorway .65m. wide x .35m. thick, with fragments of painted decoration preserved on the west door thickness. The doorway opens into room III, a large

³⁴ Quibell - Hayter, *Teti North*, 20-23.

³⁵ At Giza the normal maximum span of a single architrave is 1.20-1.50m. (Roth, *Palace Attendants*, 15).

area which was probably an open court. Irregular in shape, it measures 2.60m. N-S on the west wall x 4.10m. on the east wall x 6.75m. E-W on the north wall and 5.25m. on the south wall. There are traces of white plaster on the west, south and north walls but no evidence of any decoration. Cut into the floor of this court, contiguous with the north wall, is the large mouth of a shaft giving access to the owner's burial apartment. Two smaller shafts cut into the rock are located in the SE part of the court, and the remains of brick walls standing to nearly a metre above the floor suggest that there may have been other, intrusive, burials.

A narrow doorway at the eastern extremity of the north wall of the court, .45m. wide x .60m. thick, is defined on the north by a recess .85m. wide x .15m. deep. The doorway leads to room IV, a small antechamber which measures 2.05m. N-S x 1.65m. E-W. The west and north walls retain evidence of plaster and red paint of the dado. Two small false doors inscribed for an official named *Jbj* were placed adjacent to each other at the south end of the west wall, and an intrusive shaft cut under and into the length of the east wall.

From this antechamber access is gained to the offering chamber (room V) through a doorway at the north end of the west wall. It is .57m. wide x .38m. thick and is defined on the west by a recess .85m. wide x .17m. deep. Both thicknesses retain some plaster and on the north side are the remains of a painted scene. The offering chamber measures 4.15m. E-W x 2.05m. N-S. Traces of plaster and paint remain on the lower part of the east wall and fragments of two figures and the dado on the largely destroyed south wall, while the better preserved north wall retains a good portion of the painted scenes in the two lower registers. Set into the west wall of room V is a large inscribed limestone false door, 1.60m. wide and 2.62m. high, which has a cavetto cornice and three pairs of jambs. The measurements of the door are: upper lintel 1.27m. x .22m.; central panel .385m. square with side apertures each .06m. wide; lower lintel .52m. x .19m.; drum .11m. x .10m.; outer jambs .21m. x 1.96m.; middle jambs .16-.17m. x 1.72m.; inner jambs .20m. x 1.15m.; central niche 1.00m. x .11m. On either side is preserved one course of large limestone blocks, .20m. wide and .455m. high, which formed the side walls of the false door niche, its floor having a stone paving 10-.15m. high across the entire width. Placed on the stone floor in front of the false door is a *htp* offering table .98m. wide x .34m. deep x .225m. high in the western part and .26m. deep x .20m. high in the eastern part.

IV BURIAL APARTMENTS

Pls. 4c, 37, 38.

The main shaft is cut into the floor of the open court (room III). In the SE section of the court two smaller shafts with burial apartments have brick retaining walls above the floor level and may have been constructed at a later time when the mastaba was no longer accessible. Other brick walls in the court may belong to two other shafts which have no burial chamber and probably were either unfinished or not very deep. Another burial apartment is in room IV along the east wall. Five vertical shafts, two with burial apartments, are situated between the south walls of rooms I and II and the south wall of the mastaba. Separated above the rock level by

walls built of brick, these may have been part of the original construction with access probably from the roof. It is suspected that the area between the west walls of rooms III and V and the west façade wall may include other shafts. No attempt was made to clear this area below a height of approximately 1.00m. above the mastaba floor as such excavations could have undermined the large false door and the fragile west and north walls of the court.

From the burial apartment of *Ndt-m-pt* were recovered jars, jar stands and bowls of pottery, numerous model jars and dishes of limestone, as well as several items of alabaster and copper. Three pots were recovered from the shaft 11 in room IV (see Burial of Ibi) but none of the other nine shafts yielded any finds.

1. Unlike most of the burial apartments in the Teti cemetery which were accessed from the roof of the mastaba, the shaft leading to the burial apartment of *Ndt-m-pt* is located in an open courtyard within the mastaba. The mouth of the shaft, which occupies a good portion of the floor area of room III, measures 2.15m. N-S x 2.25m. E-W. As the bedrock surface here falls considerably below the floor level of the mastaba, the uppermost part of the shaft has retaining walls, ca .70-75m. high, constructed of mud brick.³⁶ The walls of the shaft cut through the rock become narrower and twist slightly as they descend vertically to a depth of 14.60m. At the shaft floor the walls measure 1.65m. on the north, 1.85m. on the east and 1.30m. on the south. The entire west wall and a good portion of the north and south walls are cut away to provide an opening 2.45m. wide x 2.25m. high which enabled a large sarcophagus to be manipulated into position in the burial chamber. This chamber is not cut at right angles to the shaft or to the mastaba but is closely aligned to the Saqqara Grid North. The ceiling, floor and west walls are quite evenly cut, although not smoothed, while the north and south walls have rough surfaces. The burial apartment measures 5.50m. N-S on the east side and 4.65m. at the west wall x 3.75m. E-W on the north wall and 3.20m. on the south wall x 2.25m. high. A recess or ledge along the full length of the west wall has a sill height of 1.40m., a depth of .77m. and a height of .80m.³⁷

Placed in front of, and aligned with, the west wall is a massive limestone sarcophagus, its head end lying just beneath the false door in the offering chamber (room V). The chest measures externally 2.94m. long x 1.35m. wide at the top and 1.39m. wide at the bottom x 1.20m. high. The side walls are approximately .28m. thick, and the internal measurements are 2.25m. long x .75m. wide x .80m. high. The lid, still in place, is 3.20m. long x 1.38m. wide x .45m. thick. The exterior of the sarcophagus, reasonably well cut but not smoothed, has no decoration. The interior walls are well finished and a single horizontal line of text between two register lines is inscribed on the head and two side walls. Outlined in black paint, the signs were given a coat of cream wash but details were neither carved nor painted. Near the head end on the east

³⁶ In shafts at Giza walls constructed above the bedrock are generally of stone, and rarely of mud brick (ibid, 18).

³⁷ It has been suggested that a similar recess in the burial chamber of *ṯnh-m-ṯ-Hr* served as a shelf on which to rest the lid until the sarcophagus was ready to be sealed (Firth - Gunn, *Teti Pyr. Cem.* 1, 16).

side of the chest a break made by robbers has maximum measurements of .70m. x .40m.

2. Contiguous with the east wall of the mouth of shaft 1 and with the north wall of room III is a shaft 1.15m. square. The brick walls along the east and south sides remained to a height of approximately 1.00m. and the shaft does not extend below the present floor level.
3. Shaft 3 is cut into the courtyard floor directly SE of that belonging to *Ndt-m-pt*. It has a mouth .92m. E-W x 1.00m. N-S and a depth of 5.00m. At the floor of the shaft an opening in the south wall, .95m. wide x .95m. high, leads to a burial area measuring .95m. E-W x 2.05m. N-S x .95m. high. The floor of the burial chamber has broken through the ceiling of the burial chamber of shaft 4 which lies immediately below.
4. A larger vertical shaft in the SE corner of the court with a mouth 1.45m. square descends through rock to a depth of 5.95m. where an opening in the west wall 1.45m. wide x 1.10m. high leads to an irregularly shaped burial chamber. It measures 2.35m. N-S on the east wall and 2.40m. on the west wall x 1.90m. E-W on the south wall and 1.60m. on the north wall. The ceiling, now with a break opening into the burial chamber of shaft 3, has a slight downward slope from the entrance to give a height of 1.00m. along the west wall.
5. The eastern part of the north wall of the court appears to have been largely cut away in the process of constructing shaft 5. The brick walls of the shaft, still standing to a height of just over 1.00m., surround a mouth .80m. square and there is no evidence of cutting beneath the floor level into the base rock.
6. One of five shafts aligned E-W which are contiguous with the south wall of the mastaba, shaft 6 at the SE corner appears to have been left very incomplete. It has a mouth 1.25m. E-W x 1.30m. N-S and a depth of 1.80m. Uncut rock .30m. wide x 1.50m. high remains along the north wall, and various levels of cutting are evident in a section of rock .45m. wide along the east wall.
7. Directly west of shaft 6, shaft 7 has a mouth 1.05m. square and a depth of 2.05m. In the north wall an opening .95m. wide has a ceiling cut at a sharp angle which slopes from a height of 1.05m. to .85m. This entrance gives access to an irregularly shaped burial area measuring .95m. E-W at the entrance and .60m. at the north wall x 1.90m. N-S, with a ceiling sloping downward to .70m. at the north wall.
8. Shaft 8 has a mouth 1.30m. square and a maximum depth of 1.65m. The shaft floor has several levels and the cutting appears unfinished. At the bottom of the shaft were preserved the lower four courses of an oval, domed structure constructed of mud brick. It has a maximum length of 1.00m. and possibly housed a contracted burial.
9. Also unfinished, shaft 9 has a mouth 1.30m. square and a depth of 1.45m. Remaining along the east and part of the south walls, a triangular section of uncut rock has a height of 1.35m., not far below the first course of brickwork.

10. In the SW corner of the mastaba, abutting the façade wall, is a shaft with a mouth 1.20m. E-W x 1.30m. N-S which is cut into the rock to a depth of 2.60m. At the floor of the shaft uncut rock along the east and south sides remains to a height of .50m. An opening in the west wall 1.30m. wide x .90m. high leads to a burial area which measures 1.75m. N-S x .85m. E-W x .90m. high.
11. See Burial of Ibi.

V SCENES AND INSCRIPTIONS

The walls of the chapel were constructed of mud brick. Rooms I, IV and V were plastered and decorated with scenes and inscriptions executed in painting. Both plaster and decoration are very similar to those of *Mtj* now in the Louvre museum.³⁸ A thick layer of plaster formed of mud and straw was covered with a layer, a few millimetres thick, of yellowish argil mixed with sand and some fine, small pieces of vegetable fibre. This was then coated with a thin, smooth creamy-white wash, on which painted scenes were executed. Most of the upper parts of the walls have disappeared and only in the lower registers of certain sections are scenes preserved. The area was later covered with an accumulation of sand and debris above which a layer (approximately 50cm. high) of clean, very compact gravel was laid to provide a stable foundation for a New Kingdom tomb built of mud brick walls with a pavement and some architectural elements of stone, most of which have now disappeared. The pressure of weight on the surviving Old Kingdom walls is evident in some areas where the mud brick has yielded and certain horizontal registers now have a wavy, undulating appearance. The entrance lintel, the entrance drum and the false door in the offering chamber are each formed of one limestone block decorated with incised hieroglyphs and figures, with limited modelling and details.

The Entrance

Pls. 3a, 3b, 39a, 39b.

The Lintel: *jm3hwt m zmjt jmntjt hr Jnpw Ndt-m-pt rn ...* 'the honoured one in the western desert, before Anubis, Ncdjet-em-pet, [her beautiful] name, ...'.

The Drum: Two lines of inscriptions read: (1) *hm(t)-ntr ... hm(t)-ntr Nt wpt w3wt* (2) *... Wsjr Ndt-m-pt rn.s nfr Tjt* '(1) ... the priestess of ..., the priestess of Neith, opener of the ways (2) ... Osiris, Nedjet-em-pet, her beautiful name, Tit'.

Room I

Pls. 3c, 39c, 39d, 39e.

The decoration in this room is executed in red outline only and is now very poorly preserved. On the north wall are the remains of the two lower registers depicting

³⁸ Ziegler, *Catalogue des stèles*, 32-36, 123-51.

herdsmen leading oxen in an animal procession. Both the west wall and west door thickness to room III retain fragmentary scenes of offering bearers, also outlined in red.

Room V

THE DOORWAY

Only the northern thickness retains part of its original decoration. In each of the two lower registers are two incompletely preserved offering bearers proceeding towards the inside of the room (no facsimile).

THE FALSE DOOR

Pls. 5, 40.

Set into a recess in the west wall is a monolithic limestone door with a torus moulding and surmounted by a cavetto cornice. It was painted red to simulate granite and the figures and inscriptions retain some blue paint. However, the colours are much better preserved in the lower part of the door.

The Upper Lintel: At the left is a figure of the owner holding a lotus flower close to her nose while sitting on a chair with lion's legs. In front of the figure are two horizontal (1-2) and two vertical (3-4) lines of hieroglyphs which read: (1) *htp dj nswt htp Inpw hntj zḥ-ntr jmj wt tpj dw.f nb t3 dsr qrs.tj.s m hrt-ntr* (2) *htp dj nswt htp dj Wsjr hntj Ddw prt-hrw n.s m hrt hrw r nb*³⁹ (3) *jmshwt hr ntr 3* (4) *Ndt-m-pt rn.s nfr Tjt* '(1) An offering which the king gives and an offering which Anubis, foremost of the divine booth, who is in the embalming place, who is on his hill, lord of the sacred land (gives), that she be buried in the necropolis. (2) An offering which the king gives and an offering which Osiris, foremost of Busiris gives. May an invocation offering come forth for her throughout the course of every day. (3) The honoured one before the great god, (4) Nedjet-em-pet, her beautiful name, Tit'.

The Central Panel: The tomb owner sits at an offering table laden with fourteen half-loaves of bread. She extends her right hand to the table while carrying a lotus flower in her left. On one side of the table is a ewer in a basin placed on a stand, and on the other side is written *ḥ3 t ḥ3 ḥnqt ḥ3 k3 ḥ3 3pd ḥ3 šs ḥ3 mnḥt* 'one thousand of bread, one thousand of beer, one thousand of oxen, one thousand of fowl, one thousand of alabaster and one thousand of clothes'. Above the scene is written *jmshwt hr Wsjr Ndt-m-pt rn.s nfr Tjt* 'the honoured one before Osiris, Nedjet-em-pet, her beautiful name, Tit'.

The Lower Lintel: Two horizontal lines (1-2) end with a figure of the owner, similar to that on the upper lintel. (1) *rḥt nswt ḥm(t)-ntr Hwt-hr nbt nht* (2) *jmshwt Ndt-m-pt rn.s nfr Tjt* '(1) the acquaintance of the king, the priestess of Hathor, lady of the sycamore, (2) the honoured one, Nedjet-em-pet, her beautiful name, Tit'.

³⁹ For the expression *hrt hrw r nb* see *Wb* 3, 391.

The Jambs: Each of the three jambs contains two vertical lines of hieroglyphs and ends with a standing figure of the tomb owner holding a lotus flower to her nose. The inscriptions on each of the corresponding right and left jambs are identical.

The Outer Jambs: (1) *h̄tp dj Wsjr s̄sm.tj.s h̄r w̄xwt dsr(w)t h̄p̄pt j̄m̄sh̄wt h̄r.sn šsp ʕ.s j̄n n̄tr dj zm̄jt j̄mntjt ʕwj.s r.s* (2) *rh̄t ns̄wt h̄m(t)-n̄tr H̄wt-h̄r nbt nht h̄m(t)-n̄tr Nt m̄htjt j̄nb.s w̄pt w̄xwt j̄m̄sh̄wt h̄r Wsjr N̄dt-m-pt rn.s nfr Tjt* '(1) An offering which Osiris gives, that she be guided upon the sacred roads, upon which the honoured ones travel, that her hand/credentials⁴⁰ be accepted by the god, that the western desert assists her.⁴¹ (2) The acquaintance of the king, the priestess of Hathor, lady of the sycamore, the priestess of Neith, north of her wall, opener of the ways, the honoured one before Osiris, Nedjet-em-pet, her beautiful name, Tit'.

The Middle Jambs: (1) *h̄tp dj n̄tr ʕ h̄p.s h̄r w̄xwt nfr(w)t nt j̄mnt šms.tj.s j̄n k̄zw.s j̄zw nfr wr̄t* (2) *rh̄t ns̄wt h̄m(t)-n̄tr H̄wt-h̄r nbt nht h̄m(t)-n̄tr Nt m̄htjt j̄nb.s w̄pt w̄xwt j̄m̄sh̄wt h̄r J̄npw N̄dt-m-pt rn.s nfr Tjt* '(1) An offering which the great god gives, that she may travel upon the beautiful roads of the west, that she be accompanied by her kas having reached a very good old age. (2) The acquaintance of the king, the priestess of Hathor, lady of the sycamore, the priestess of Neith, north of her wall, opener of the ways, the honoured one before Anubis, Nedjet-em-pet, her beautiful name, Tit'.

The Inner Jambs: (1) *rh̄t ns̄wt h̄m(t)-n̄tr H̄wt-h̄r nbt nht h̄m(t)-n̄tr Nt m̄htjt j̄nb.s w̄pt w̄xwt* (2) *j̄m̄sh̄wt h̄r n̄tr ʕ nb j̄mnt N̄dt-m-pt rn.s nfr Tjt* '(1) The acquaintance of the king, the priestess of Hathor, lady of the sycamore, the priestess of Neith, north of her wall, opener of the ways, (2) the honoured one before the great god, lord of the west, Nedjet-em-pet, her beautiful name, Tit'.

THE NORTH WALL

Pls. 4b, 6, 7, 41, 42.

The upper part of the wall has disappeared and only the lower two registers are partly preserved above a banded dado.

The top register shows the feet of a large, seated female figure wearing anklets, probably *N̄dt-m-pt* herself, and the remains of a small kneeling female probably clasping the legs of *N̄dt-m-pt*. Fragments of plaster recovered from the debris immediately below this scene presumably identify the small figure as [*z̄t.s?*] *sm̄sw(t) j̄m̄sh̄w(t) H̄mt-R̄* 'her eldest daughter, the honoured one, Hemet-Re'. In front of the two women are several stands holding bread, cuts of meat, geese and vegetables as well as containers of food and drinks. At the eastern end of the wall are five offering bearers advancing towards the tomb owner. In the bottom register at least a further twenty-four offering bearers are depicted, all wearing short, tight kilts. Some wring the necks of geese, some support with their hands trays of food placed on their shoulders, while others lead on ropes small animals or carry live

⁴⁰ Davies et al., *Saqqâra Tombs* 1, 9.

⁴¹ Lit. 'gives its hands to her'.

birds. Many bearers also carry in their hands, or hanging from the crooks of their arms, bags of food, forelegs of oxen, vegetables or lotus flowers.

The artist's guidelines, drawn in red, have survived well in the section depicting the offering bearers. Seven horizontal lines were drawn, marking the positions of the crown of the head, the hairline of the forehead, the join of the neck and shoulders, the armpits, the elbows, the wrists and the lower curve of the buttocks, and the knees. One axial vertical line passing through the ear divides the body into two parts.⁴² While the horizontal lines extend the entire length of the register, thus fixing an equal height to all offering bearers,⁴³ the vertical lines are positioned at different intervals depending on the space required for illustrating each offering bearer and the items he carries.

A line of text runs the length of the wall above the bottom register. It reads: ... *s m njwwt.s nt T3-mhꜣw ... wpt rnpt m Dḥwtjt m tpj rnpt m W3g m ḥb Zkr m ḥb Rkh m xwt dt n jmshwt ḥr nꜣr ʕ jmshwt ḥr Jnpw tpj dw.f Ndt-m-pt r[n].s nfr Tjt* '... her ... and her towns of the North ..., at the opening of the year feast, at the Thot feast, at the first of the year feast, at the Wag-feast, at the feast of Sokar and at the feast of the burning, in the extent of eternity for the honoured one before the great god, the honoured one before Anubis, who is on his hill, Ncdjet-em-pet, her beautiful name, Tit'.

Fragments recovered from the debris which filled room V show the head of a woman wearing a fillet and streamer and at least three vertical lines of hieroglyphs, each ending with *rn.s nfr Zšzšt* 'her beautiful name, Seshseshet'. It has been suggested above that this might have been a representation of *Ndt-m-pt*'s daughter-in-law, the wife of *Mrrw-k3.j*, but whether the fragments belonged to the north wall or to the opposite south wall is unknown.

THE SOUTH WALL

Only the feet of two offering bearers in the bottom register and the remains of a dado are now preserved. The rest of the wall and its scenes have disappeared.

The Sarcophagus

Pls. 8, 43.

Found *in situ* in the burial chamber of the main shaft, the large sarcophagus of *Ndt-m-pt* was cut from two blocks of limestone, one for the chest and another for the lid. Both blocks are reasonably well cut, but neither smoothed nor inscribed on the outside. The inside surfaces are better finished and are inscribed with a line of hieroglyphs in black ink only on each of sides 1 (east), 2 (west) and 3 (north). There is evidence that the initial inscriptions were corrected, also in black ink, but there is no reason to believe that the sarcophagus changed ownership. Such

⁴² For the study of these guidelines see Iversen, *Canon and Proportions*, 27ff.; Robins, *Proportion and Style*, 64ff.

⁴³ The present apparent difference in the height of certain figures on this wall was caused by the pressure of the accumulated sand and debris as well as the weight of later buildings.

corrections can be seen in the repetition of the sign 𓆎 in *nswt*, the replacement of the suffix *.f* with that of *.s* in *hpl.fl.s* on side 2 and in the re-writing of the sign *t* in *jmshwt* on side 3. In all three cases the original signs are slightly lighter in colour than the rest of the inscriptions which appear to have been inked a second time, perhaps in the course of checking and correcting.

Ancient tomb robbers gained entry to the sarcophagus by breaking through the top of the northern end of side 1,⁴⁴ which damaged the inscriptions in this section. However, other than small areas presumably crushed during the process of cutting through the stone, the text can be completely reconstructed with fragments from the missing section found among the rubble in the burial chamber. No facsimile of the inscriptions inside the sarcophagus was feasible, but a hand copy of the texts was produced.

Side 1: *htp dj nswt hntj zh-ntr jmj wt tpj dw.f nb t3 dsr qrs.tj.s m hrt-ntr jmshwt hr ntr 3 Tjtj rn.s 3 Ndt-m-pt* 'An offering which the king gives and the foremost of the divine booth, who is in the embalming place, who is on his hill, lord of the sacred land (gives),⁴⁵ that she be buried in the necropolis, the honoured one before the great god, Titi, her great name, Nedjet-em-pet'.

Side 2: *htp dj nswt nb Ddw hpl.fl.s⁴⁶ nfr hr w3wt jptf nfr(w)t hpppt jmshwt hr.sn Ndt-m-pt* 'An offering which the king gives and the lord of Busiris (gives), that she may travel well upon these beautiful roads, upon which the honoured ones travel, Nedjet-em-pet'.

Side 3: *rht nswt jmshwt Ndt-m-pt* 'The acquaintance of the king, the honoured one, Nedjet-em-pet'.

VI COLOUR CONVENTIONS

All walls were given a coat of black mud plaster which was covered with a yellow plaster mixed with fine vegetable fibre, and prepared for painting with a thin creamy-white wash. The remains of scenes outlined in red are found on the north and west walls of room I and on the west jamb of the door leading to room III. Painted wall scenes are preserved in the offering chamber (room V) and fragments of colour surviving above the dado in room IV indicate that this room was also decorated. In the offering chamber red guidelines, vertical and horizontal, are present in both of the registers remaining on the north wall.

⁴⁴ Compare with the sarcophagus of *K^c(.j)-spr(w)*, where attempts to break into the sarcophagus were made at three separate places.

⁴⁵ Although the epithets of Anubis are given, the name of the god is omitted. The same is found in the case of Osiris on side 2. In this cemetery, *Mrrw-k3.j*, *Nfr-sšm-R^c* and *Hntj-k3.j* inscribed on their sarcophagi and/or on the walls of their burial chambers the names of the two gods phonetically, but with no determinatives (Firth - Gunn, *Teti Pyr. Cem.* 2, pls. 58, 60; Duell, *Mereruka*, pls. 201ff.; James, *Khenika*, pls. 35, 40); *K3-gm-nj* and *nh-m-^c-Hr* omitted the names and referred to the gods by their epithets (Firth - Gunn, *Teti Pyr. Cem.* 2, pls. 6A, 58, 60; Badawy, *Ankhm^cahor*, pl. 80).

⁴⁶ The suffix *.f* was written first, then the *.s* in ink.

Dado: Red band above yellow, separated by black line, black to floor.
 Banded frieze: Blocks of red, bright blue and white separated by tri-partite blocks of black-white-black.
 Register and column lines: Black.
 Skin of male figures: Clear ochre red with darker red outline.
 Skin of female figures: Yellow.
 Hair: Black.
 Eyes: Brow, eye outline and iris black.
 Kilts and dresses: White with red outline.
 Jewellery: Traces of blue on tomb owner's anklets.
 Footrest: White.
 Stands/tables for offerings: One white; one shows black wood grain marking.
 Flat woven trays: White with red diagonal lines.
 Woven baskets: Two of the five baskets carried over the crook of an arm retain most of their colour and exhibit a variety of weaves in the six bands of each basket. That in the upper register: (from top) red; blue with black dots; white with red hatching; blue with black hatching; red with white hatching; blue with black dots; outline and rope handle black. That at right in bottom register: (from top) red; white with red diagonal lines; white (black dots missing?); white with red diagonal lines; white with black dots; white with red diagonal lines; outline and rope black.
 Containers with fruit?: Carried by sixth man from right in lower register, container white outlined in black; large fruit yellow with smaller blue fruit (circles) above, both outlined in red.
 Container with lotus top: Middle of lower register, white ground; base spotted in black; upper part with black horizontal lines and red vertical lines; flower on top blue; all outlined in black.
 Tall jars: One red with black top; one blue with black spots.
 Jar: White with black detail and outline.
 Jar carried over crook of arm: White with black lines and black rope.
 Lotus: Stem red, flower blue.
 Papyrus: Upper part now white with red outline and detail; lower portion (below hand) red with black lines and outline.
 Onions: Stems and bulbs white outlined in red.
 Foreleg: Haunch red, leg orange-red (one white) with spotted black markings, hoof yellow.
 Calf: White with black markings, collar outlined in black.
 Antelope?: Pale orange-red.
 Calf's head on tray: Yellow.
 Trussed duck on tray: Yellow.
 Geese: At right in upper register, yellow/brown body outlined in red with blue shading near tail; black markings on breast; wing and wing tips blue; tail feathers dark red with blue markings and black outline; beak red; red legs with dark red diagonal markings. In piled offerings upper register and in lower register, blue body, red head; wing and tail tips red with red and black markings; one with black feet.
 Loaves: *t*-loaf yellow; squarish loaf white with yellow spots; round loaf white with black spots.
 Fruit?: carried by two offering bearers on woven flat tray - white with blue spots.
 Vegetable?: top no colour, stem bands of yellow and white with black outline.

Hieroglyphic signs

Traces of blue paint remain in several of the hieroglyphs incised on the entrance lintel, , , , , , and it may be presumed that all were painted the same colour. The false door was painted red with all the figures and inscriptions retaining traces of blue colour. All signs listed below are recorded in the offering chamber (room V); the vast majority are found on the north wall and a few are preserved on painted plaster fragments recovered from the debris in that room. Most of the hieroglyphs on the north wall to the left of the tomb owner's feet are now white with red or black outline, and it is likely that most of the signs were given a white undercoat before applying colour.

Polychrome

- A20  Flesh yellow; kilt white; staff yellow; outlined in red
- D1  Face red; hair and details black
- D39  Arm red; nw pot blue
- F39  White ground with red rib detail and outline
- F40  White ground with red rib detail and outline
- G17  Face white with red detail on forehead; wings, tail and legs yellow; breast and hocks white with black dots; outlined in red
- G43  Yellow with details eye and outline black; beak and legs red
- I9  Yellow with black horns, eye and outline
- N26  Light yellow with fine red dots and outline above two black horizontal lines
- N37  Blue, outlined in red - or under blue?
- O22  Booth white with post bases and rope lashing black; centre support red
- O32  Top yellow with black surround; bottom white on black base
- R8  Yellow with black lashing on lower half of pole
- V4  Tie white, centre of rope red, end blue
- W3  Yellow (one white) with diagonal red lines; black outline
- W12  White with red details and outline
- Y2  Papyrus roll white with red detail, outlined in black; seal blue

Red

- D21  D36  D46  F35  O29  O34 
- S29  U33  Aa27 

YellowI10 **White** it is very likely that all these signs originally were greenM17  U1  V28  V31  Aa **Green**V30 **Blue** all outlined in blackN1  N17  U36  T8  W24  X1 **Black**E15  N35 **VII HUMAN REMAINS***Pls. 8a, 9.*

Human remains were found in the sarcophagus of *Ndt-m-pt*. The wrappings are badly decayed with a charred appearance, soft tissues are completely lacking and there is no evidence that the body was mummified. The bones were found loose but lay extended on the back in the correct anatomical position. The skeleton is that of a female, the long bones indicating a person of between 149cm. (4 feet 10 inches) and 153cm. (5 feet) in height.⁴⁷ The skull and skeleton are small and gracile, the muscle attachment scars are all small and the skull architecture is smooth with sharp edges on the orbits. The pelvis is unambiguously gynaecoid in shape and proportions, the angle of the sciatic notch is wide, the obturator foramen is small and more angular than round in shape and the preauricular sulcus is wide and deep.

The individual is likely to have been over fifty years of age at death. There is extreme dental attrition, and 100% of the occlusal surfaces of all remaining teeth are worn down to the dentine. When the molar teeth are compared to Brothwell's⁴⁸ chart for age classification, they fall into the 45+ age group. According to Todd's⁴⁹ 10 age phases of the pubic symphysis this specimen is a phase 10, which indicates an age of 50+. The cranial sutures have almost completely disappeared ectocranially. The coronial suture is only faintly visible for approximately 2cm. on the temples; the sagittal suture is almost totally obliterated, with a faint remainder in

⁴⁷ Stature calculations were made from the modified Trotter and Gleser Table in Krogman - Iscan, *The Human Skeleton*, 308.

⁴⁸ Bass, *Human Osteology*, 239, fig. 153

⁴⁹ Krogman - Iscan, *The Human Skeleton*, 151.

places; the lamboidal suture is just faintly visible over approximately 40% of its length. The condition of the sutures would indicate a person of middle to advanced age.⁵⁰ However, because of the unreliability of ageing from cranial sutures, this method was noted but not relied upon.⁵¹

As stated above there is severe dental attrition, in addition to other dental problems. Beginning with the maxilla, the left first incisor (tooth 2.1) is chipped, and the left canine (tooth 2.3) is worn down to the gum level with the canal exposed and a periapical abscess above it that opens into the palatal side. Tooth 2.5 is just holding in place, as a result of a large abscess above tooth 2.6 which has eroded through the maxilla on the palatal side and emerges above tooth 2.7 on the buccal side. Teeth 2.6 and 2.7 have both been lost ante-mortem. On the right side of the maxilla, teeth 1.1 and 1.2 are both worn down to the canal, which has been resealed by secondary growth. Tooth 1.3 is chipped, the canal of tooth 1.4 is exposed to the extent that the tooth is almost hollow, and there is a small abscess beginning at the apex of the tooth. Teeth 1.6, 1.7 and 1.8 are all worn almost to the gum level.

On the mandible, both first incisors (3.1 and 4.1) are missing, the root canals have resealed and some resorption of alveolar bone has taken place, leaving a smooth surface. Thus the alveolar bone is very thin in this area. Tooth 3.6 has an abscess below it, and teeth 3.7 and 3.8 appear to have been lost ante-mortem though the condition of the bone makes it difficult to tell. There appears to be periodontal disease, with the bone retreating from the roots of the molar teeth. Tooth 4.8 is worn to the gum level and has a heavy build-up of calculus.

There are slight arthritic changes in the cervical spine, most pronounced on C5 and 6. Arthritic degeneration is much more in evidence in the thoracic spine, with lipping and osteophytic growth on nearly all of the margins. T7 is slightly wedged to the anterior margin and T8 and 9 are fused by osteophytic growth on the anterior longitudinal ligament that is beginning to continue onto T10. There are large osteophytes on L 3, 4 and 5. Some arthritic change had begun in the acetabulum.

The pelvis, like all of the other bones in the skeleton, is extremely light, giving the impression of osteoporosis. There is a fracture in the right pubis approximately 3cm. from the pubic symphysis, that was beginning to heal at time of death. There is a crack (approximately 2cm. long) on the shaft of the right femur just inferior to the greater trochanter. This also appeared to be healing at time of death. It is probable that this is a woman of advanced years who had a fall and broke her pelvis and hip, then possibly died from hypostatic pneumonia due to being immobilised.⁵²

In summary the skeleton is that of a female of advanced years (at least over 50) who had a little arthritis in the neck, back and hip, which would have resulted in some loss of mobility in these areas, and some fairly serious dental problems, that

⁵⁰ Ibid, 110-23.

⁵¹ For a discussion of the unreliability of ageing from suture closures see Ubelaker, *Human Skeletal Remains*, 59-60.

⁵² This was a common result of a broken hip or pelvis in people of advanced years until very recent times when surgeons began to pin broken bones thus preventing the need for immobilisation.

TABLE 1. SKULL MEASUREMENTS OF NDT-M-PT

1. Glabello-occipital length	169mm.
2. Nasio-occipital length	168
3. Basion-nasion length	94
4. Basion-bregma height	136
5. Maximum cranial breadth	134
6. Maximum frontal breadth	114
7. Biauricular breadth	116
8. Biasterionic breadth	105
9. Basion-prosthion length	88
10. Nasion-prosthion height	62
11. Nasal height	46
12. Orbit height, right	35
13. Orbit breadth, right	39
14. Bijugal breadth	107
15. Nasal breadth	25
16. Palate breadth	64
17. Bimaxillary breadth	92e*
18. Zygomaxillary subtense	25
19. Bifrontal breadth	97
20. Nasio-frontal subtense	19
21. Biorbital breadth	91
22. Interorbital breadth	21
23. Cheek height	19
24. Frontal (Nasion-bregma) chord	113
25. Frontal subtense	26
26. Parietal (bregma-lambda) chord	113
27. Parietal subtense	26
28. Occipital (Lambda-opisthion) chord	105
29. Occipital subtense	26

* e denotes estimate, where the bone is cracked or damaged but still accurately measurable to the nearest mm.

TABLE 2. LONG BONE MEASUREMENTS OF NDT-M-PT

Right Humerus length	277mm.
Right Humerus head diameter	39
Left Ulna length	239
Left Radius length	217
Right Femur length	395
head diameter	40
midshaft diameter, Medio-lateral	23
midshaft diameter, Anterior posterior	24
Left Femur length	395
midshaft diameter, Medio-lateral	23
midshaft diameter, Anterior posterior	24
Right Tibia length	321
Left Tibia length	321

may well have eventually led to septicaemia. She probably died from complications resulting from a fall and a broken hip and pelvis, or from septicaemia.

VIII FINDS

All of the finds recorded below were recovered from the burial chamber of *Ndt-m-pt* except the three items designated TNE94:121 which were found in clearing the shaft. These jars probably date to the First Intermediate Period or early Middle Kingdom; the other finds may be ascribed to the late Old Kingdom.

TNE94:102. Pls. 10, 44.

Large ovoid storage jar, with a slightly flaring neck and external triangular rim; body tapering to a pointed base. Remains of a plaster seal on the shoulder. Wheel-made. The jar was full of lumps of dark clay. Complete. H 29.5cm. W 15.0cm. D rim 7.0cm.

TNE94:103. Pl. 10.

Large storage jar, similar type to TNE94:102, with traces of plaster sealing on shoulder. Probably wheelmade, covered in a light beige wash. The jar was full of a fine-textured light brown substance. Complete. H 32.8cm. W 15.8cm. D rim 8.5cm.

TNE94:104. Pls. 10, 44.

Large storage jar, similar to TNE94:102 but with a more bevelled rim. Traces of plaster sealing on shoulder. The jar was full of a dark substance. Complete. H 31.2cm. W 17.5cm. D rim 8.8cm.

TNE94:105. Pl. 10.

Large storage jar, same type as TNE94:102. Remnants of white plaster sealing on shoulder and exterior surface coated with a light greenish-grey self-slip. The jar was filled with a dark substance. Wheelmade of marl clay close to Marl A3. Missing the neck and rim. H 30.6cm. W 17.2cm.

TNE94:106. Pls. 10, 44.

Jar stand with roll rim and thickened base, concavo-convex walls. Incised horizontal line around the stand. Matt light grey wash (5YR 7/1) on surface. Crudely wheelmade and also built by hand; finger impressions visible on body. Close to Nile silt B2. Chipped edges but otherwise complete. H 19.1cm. D rim 14.8cm. D base 13.6cm.

TNE94:107. Pls. 10, 44.

Fragmentary squat jar stand, wider at the top than the bottom. Convex sides and thickened rim. Light grey wash (5YR 7/1) on exterior. Wheelmade of Nile silt. H 9.8cm. D rim 17.0cm. D base 15.0cm.

TNE94:108. Pls. 11, 44.

Tall jar stand, straight sides, with a plain flaring rim. Light reddish-brown (5YR 6/4) to reddish-brown wash (5YR 5/4) on exterior surface and some leaching also visible. The stand is wheelmade, and then twisted and stretched by hand when the

clay was wet to lengthen the object, as 'stretch' marks are visible in the interior along with finger impressions on surface. Nile silt B2. Broken at one end. H 14.6cm. D rim 12.5cm.

TNE94:109. Pl. 10.

Fragment of a jar stand with concave walls, roll rim at one end and plain rim at the other. Probably wheelmade of Nile silt. H 14.5cm.

TNE94:110. Pls. 11, 44.

Small bowl, with a wide flat base, convex sides and slightly flattened, slightly everted rim. Matt reddish-brown wash (5YR 5/4) on interior and exterior. Wheelmade, base unevenly knife-cut and exterior trimmed with a knife. Coarse Nile silt B2 bordering on a Nile silt C. Complete. H 5.5cm. W 10.3cm. D rim 10.1cm. D base 6.2cm.

TNE94:111. Pls. 11, 44.

Small flaring bowl, with an uneven flat base and plain rim. Weak red wash (2.5YR 5/4) on exterior and interior surface. Wheelmade of Nile silt C, with string-cut base. Missing a fragment from the rim, but otherwise complete. H 5.2cm. D rim 9.4cm. D base 5.0cm.

TNE94:112. Pl. 11.

One side of a mother of pearl bivalve shell, almost complete. L 11.5cm. W max. 7.2cm.

TNE94:113. Pl. 11.

Model jars of limestone and calcite, many complete:

- A. Two ovoid limestone jars with flat-topped ledge rims, flat bases, and remnant unpierced handles on one side. Jar drilled inside to about 1/3 of height. H 7.5cm. D rim max. 4.0cm. D base 3.0cm.
- B. Ten ovoid limestone jars with flat-topped ledge rims and flat bases. Jars drilled inside to about 1/4 of height. H 5.0-7.5cm.
- C. Ten limestone jars, almost cylindrical in shape but with slightly convex sides. Flat-topped ledge rims and disc bases. Jars drilled inside to about 1/4 of height. H ca. 8.0cm.
- D. Two calcite or gypsum necked jars with flaring flat-topped rims and flat bases. Jars drilled inside to almost 1/2 of height. H 4.7 and 6.7cm.
- E. Two flaring straight-sided cups of fine basalt and quartz, with flat rims and bases.⁵³ H basalt cup 2.7cm. H quartz cup 3.0cm.
- F. Sixty-five small limestone dishes; drill marks visible on interior. D rim 4.1-6.2cm.

TNE94:114. (not illustrated)

Small quantity of cobalt blue pigment, now hardened into a mass in the broken base of a vessel bearing a red slipped surface. L 6.5cm. W 5.5cm.

⁵³ For examples of similar cups see Firth - Gunn, *Teti Pyr. Cem.* 2, pl. 15A; Valloggia, *Medounefer*, pl. 69:1037.

TNE94:115. Pl. 11.

Copper jars and fragments:

- A. Slender concavo-convex kohl pot and stick inside, with applied ridge around neck. Pot filled with a pink substance. Base now hollow with traces of white substance. Probably core-formed. Good state of preservation. H 10.0cm. W 2.4cm. D rim 2.3cm. D base 1.0cm.
- B. One hole-mouthed jar with high shoulders and a flat base. Interior is lined with a layer of plaster. Core-formed. Broken. H 6.6cm. W 4.0cm. D rim 1.2cm. D base 2.9cm.
- C. Numerous fragments of copper vessels, including bases, rims and neck pieces, found scattered in the burial chamber.

TNE94:121. Pl. 44.

- A. Large tapering ovoid bottle with a short vertical neck, thickened rim and pointed base.⁵⁴ Worn matt red wash (2.5YR 5/6) on exterior. Roughly wheelmade and probably also partially hand-built of Nile silt C. Complete except for small chips on rim. H 24.7cm. W 11.3cm. D rim 5.0cm.
- B. Large tapering bottle of the same type and ware as TNE94:121A. Missing fragment from neck. H 24.9cm. W 10.8cm. D rim 4.8cm.
- C. Large tapering bottle of the same type and ware as TNE94:121A. Missing the rim and neck. H 22.8cm. W 11.4cm.

⁵⁴ Quibell found larger but comparable examples during work on a series of First Intermediate Period/early Middle Kingdom tombs at Saqqara to which the present vessels are related (*Excavations at Saqqara* 2, pl. 39:1, 3, 4).

THE BURIAL OF IBI

I THE TOMB OWNER

NAME

*Jbj*⁵⁵ 'Ibi'.

TITLES

- 1- *jmj-r jpt nswt* 'overseer of the royal harem'.⁵⁶
- 2- *jrj nfr h3t* 'keeper of the headdress'. The title is usually associated with attendance on the king.⁵⁷
- 3- *hrj-hbt* 'lector priest'.
- 4- *smr w^{etj}* 'sole companion'.

II DATING OF IBI

Although *Jbj* set two false doors into the west wall of room IV of *Ndt-m-pt*'s chapel, their relationship, if any existed, is not known. The position of the false doors, at floor level of the room, may suggest that the chapel of *Ndt-m-pt* was still perfectly clear and accessible. The shape of *Jbj*'s false doors is common in the cemetery,⁵⁸ and there is no justification in dating all such examples to the end of the Old Kingdom or later.⁵⁹ The inscribed frame around the northern door and the T-shaped panel of both doors are found in the false door of *Ppjj-ddj*,⁶⁰ most probably *Hntj-k3.j*'s son, dated to the reign of Pepy I.⁶¹ It is interesting that the unusual long pleated kilt worn by *Jbj* on the southern false door is attested in the tomb of *Jdw* of Giza, also dated to the reign of Pepy I.⁶² It remains uncertain whether the burial apartment cut into the floor of this room opposite the false doors was associated with Ibi or is intrusive and of a slightly later date.

Suggested date: Reign of Pepy I, or later.

⁵⁵ Ranke, *Personennamen* 1, 20:10.

⁵⁶ For a study of this title see Junker, *Giza* 7, 124; vol. 11, 127-29.

⁵⁷ See *ibid* 10, 111; Helck, *Beamtentitel*, 42.

⁵⁸ See for example, Firth - Gunn, *Teti Pyr. Cem.*, 2, *passim*; Kanawati et al., *Saqqara*, 2 vols., *passim*.

⁵⁹ As does Strudwick, *JEA* 73 (1987), 277.

⁶⁰ James, *Khentika*, pl. 42.

⁶¹ Strudwick, *Administration*, 18.

⁶² Simpson, *Qar and Idu*, fig. 34.

III BURIAL APARTMENT

Pl. 36.

A shallow vertical shaft (shaft 11) was excavated in room IV of *Ndt-m-pt*'s chapel, opposite the two false doors of *Jbj* placed into the brick-work of the west wall. Its mouth is cut into the floor along the length of the east wall of the antechamber, extending under both the east and south walls. In order to avoid undermining the remaining lower courses of the mud brick walls, this shaft was not completely excavated so few precise measurements or details can be provided. It measures 2.20m. N-S with a deep step down at the south end, and the east and west walls are straight but roughly cut. At the shaft floor an irregularly shaped burial area extends westward under the floor of the antechamber for approximately 1.50m. The shape of this shaft, rectangular and shallow with a burial chamber not far beneath the chapel floor, is quite different from the others in the tomb of *Ndt-m-pt* which have a square mouth and generally a greater depth. It is quite possible that it may be dated slightly, although not much, later than the original construction of this mastaba.

IV SCENES AND INSCRIPTIONS

Pls. 4a, 12, 45.

The two small limestone false doors are inscribed for *Jbj*. Both are of the type with a torus moulding and cavetto cornice and retain some of their original coats of white plaster. The southern door including the frame has a width of .56m. and is .18m. thick; the door itself measures .395m. wide x .77m. high. The northern door, .06m. thick and placed on a stone base .06m. high, has a width at the base of .43m. and at the top of .46m. with a height of .55m. With the exception of the scene on the panel of the south false door, which is in raised relief, the decoration on both doors is incised with minimum internal details. No colours are preserved.

The Southern False Door

The Upper Lintel: *pṛt-ḥrw nt*⁶³ *smr wṯtj jrj nfr ḥst ḥrj-ḥbt Jbj* 'An invocation offering of the sole companion, the keeper of the headdress, the lector priest, Ibi'.

The Lower Lintel: *jmšḥw ḥr Jnpw tpj dw.f* 'The honoured one before Anubis, who is on his hill'.

The Central Panel: The owner sits at an offering table. One horizontal and one vertical line of inscriptions read: (1) *t ḥz ḥnqt ḥz 3pd ḥz* (2) *n jmšḥw Jbj* '(1) Bread,

⁶³ For the formula *pṛt-ḥrw nt* ... see Lapp, *Opferformel*, §68, 160ff. For other examples see Firth - Gunn, *Teti Pyr. Cem.* 2, pl. 73:1; Simpson, *Qar and Idu*, fig. 32; Kanawati et al., *Saqqara* 1, pl. 23; El-Khouli - Kanawati, *Saqqara* 2, pl. 22; James, *Khentika*, pl. 42; Junker, *Giza* 7, fig. 8; vol. 11, fig. 40. It is interesting that these examples share some points of similarity and that the most likely date of all of them is the reign of Pepy I. While this form was perhaps not restricted to this reign, it appears to have been more common at that time.

one thousand, beer, one thousand, fowl, one thousand, (2) for the honoured one, Ibi'.

The Outer Jambs: Each jamb contains one column of hieroglyphs ending with a standing figure of the owner, wearing a long, pleated kilt. The figure on the left holds a staff and a sceptre, while that on the right holds a folded cloth in the left hand. Inscribed on the right jamb is: *jm3hw hr nfr 3 nb pt smr wstj Jbj* 'The honoured one before the great god, lord of heaven, the sole companion, Ibi'. The left jamb reads: *prrt-hrw n smr wstj jrj nfr hst hrj-hbt Jbj* 'May an invocation offering come forth for the sole companion, the keeper of the headdress, the lector priest, Ibi'.

The Inner Jambs: Each jamb carried one column of text. The right reads: *smr wstj hrj-hbt jm3hw Jbj* 'The sole companion, the lector priest, the honoured one, Ibi'; and the left: *smr wstj jrj nfr hst Jbj* 'The sole companion, the keeper of the headdress, Ibi'.

The Northern False Door

The Frame: The inscriptions across the top of the frame (1) continue down the left side (2) and end with a standing figure of the owner holding a staff and sceptre. The right side has a separate inscription (3) ending with a figure like that on the left. (1) *htp dj nswt Jnpw tpj dw.f prrthrw n smr wstj* (2) *jrj nfr hst jmj-r jpt nswt jm3hw hr nswt smr wstj Jbj* (3) *jm3hw hr Wsjr nb Ddw smr wstj hrj-hbt Jbj* '(1) An offering which the king gives and Anubis, who is on his hill (gives). May an invocation offering come forth for the sole companion. (2) The keeper of the headdress, the overseer of the royal harem, the honoured one before the king, the sole companion, Ibi. (3) The honoured one before Osiris, lord of Busiris, the sole companion, the lector priest, Ibi'.

The Upper Lintel: *smr wstj jrj nfr hst jmj-r jpt nswt* 'The sole companion, the keeper of the headdress, the overseer of the royal harem'.

The Central Panel: Holding a perfume jar to his nose the owner sits before an offering table, to the right of which is a ewer in a basin. Above the scene is written (1) *smr wstj jrj nfr hst hrj-hbt* (2) *jm3hw Jbj* '(1) The sole companion, the keeper of the headdress, (2) the honoured one, Ibi'.

The Outer Jambs: Each jamb is inscribed with one line of hieroglyphs ending in a standing figure of the owner holding the staff and sceptre. The inscriptions on the right jamb read: *jm3hw hr Wsjr smr wstj jrj nfr hst Jbj* 'The honoured one before Osiris, the sole companion, the keeper of the headdress, Ibi', while those on the left read: *jm3hw hr nswt smr wstj Jbj* 'The honoured one before the king, the sole companion, Ibi'.

The Lower Lintel: (1) *smr wstj jmj-r jpt nswt* (2) *jrj nfr hst hrj-hbt* '(1) The sole companion, the overseer of the royal harem, (2) the keeper of the headdress, the lector priest'.

The Inner Jambs: Each jamb carries the inscription *jm3hw Jbj* 'The honoured one, Ibi', followed by a seated figure of the owner.

V FINDS

Three pots were found in the course of clearing shaft 11 but these cannot be regarded as necessarily contemporary with the tomb.

TNE94:49. Pls. 13, 46.

Squat high-shouldered jar, body narrowing to a wide flat base. Oval spout on shoulder below thickened collar rim.⁶⁴ Red wash on exterior surface. Wheelmade of Nile silt, spout added by hand. Almost complete. H 14.1cm. W 14.1cm. D base 9.5cm. D rim 7.5cm. L spout *ca* 2.25cm. D spout 3.3-2.5cm.

TNE 94:50. Pls. 13, 46.

Large ovoid storage jar with rounded base, short upright neck and thickened everted rim. Red wash over exterior surface. Probably wheelmade of Nile silt. Mud seal associated with jar. Almost complete. H 32.5cm. D max. 19.5cm. D rim 10.0cm. Mud seal: D 6.5-7.0cm. H at centre 3.5cm.

TNE 94:51. Pl. 13.

Large ovoid storage jar of same type and ware as TNE94:50. Missing minor chips but otherwise complete. H 30.3cm. D max. 18.3cm. D rim 9.5cm.

⁶⁴ Squat spouted jars are known in the Old Kingdom in both copper and ceramic (Bourriau, *Umm el-Ga'ab*, 52, no. 85). In the Sixth Dynasty, spouts on metal examples were sometimes long and curved (Hayes, *Scepter* 1, 120, fig. 74). Squat jars with short spouts similar to TNE94:49 are also known from some First Intermediate Period/early Middle Kingdom tombs at Saqqara (Quibell, *Excavations at Saqqara* 1, pl. 32:1; vol. 2, pl. 39:1, 2.), which could indicate a Sixth Dynasty to early Middle Kingdom date range for TNE94:49.

THE MASTABA OF KA-APER

I THE TOMB OWNER, HIS FAMILY AND DEPENDENTS

The Tomb Owner

NAME

K3(.j)-*pr(w)*⁶⁵ 'Ka-aper'. The name is consistently written with  rather than . The name was rather popular in the Old Kingdom, particularly during Dynasty 5.⁶⁶

TITLES

- 1- *jmj-r hwt-wrt* 'overseer of the great court'. The title appears to have been connected with the legal administration and is frequently associated with that of *hrj-tp nswt*.⁶⁷ *jmj-r hwt-wrt* is basically held in the capital,⁶⁸ although two provincial officials, who probably also had a period of employment in the Residence, are known to have carried it.⁶⁹ The title in itself does not seem to be a particularly high one, yet in many cases its tenure appears as 'a feature of a man's career before he was promoted to the vizierate'.⁷⁰
- 2- *jmj-r zš ꜥ nswt* 'overseer of the scribes of the king's documents'. This is considered as the most important office in the scribal administration. In the Fifth Dynasty the title was probably held simultaneously by two men, one of whom was the vizier, while the other supervised the details of the administration. From the late Fifth Dynasty, however, the title was held only by the vizier,⁷¹ an office which does not appear in the surviving inscriptions of K3(.j)-*pr(w)*.
- 3- *jmj-r zšwj* 'overseer of the two fowl pools'.⁷²
- 4- *jmj-r k3t nbt nt nswt* 'overseer of all the works of the king'. The holders of this title were responsible for the organisation of all works, such as buildings,

⁶⁵ Ranke, *Personennamen* 1, 338:24.

⁶⁶ See for example Lepsius, *Denkmäler*, Text I, 126; Mariette, *Mastabas*, 127-28; Fischer, *JNES* 18 [1959], 233ff.; Hassan, *Giza* 2, 155-58; vol. 6:3, 155-62; Junker, *Giza* 1, 254; vol. 6, 32. The name is attested a number of times in the Abusir papyri (Posener-Krieger - De Cenival, *The Abu-Sir Papyri*, pls. 62-63, 82, 96). The same name has also been found in other recent excavations at Saqqara and Abusir.

⁶⁷ Helck, *Beamtentitel*, 60; Strudwick, *Administration*, 182.

⁶⁸ For a list of holders see *ibid.*, 176-77, Table 7, to which may be added the present case as well as that of *Sšm-nfr* in the Teti cemetery (the latter, excavated by the Egyptian Antiquities Organisation, is unpublished; see now Kanawati et al., *Saqqara* 1, 9).

⁶⁹ *Hm-Mnw* (Kanawati, *El-Hawawish* 5, pl. 1, fig. 7) and *Ppjj-ꜥnhj-hrj-jb* (Blackman, *Meir* 4, pls. 4A:1, 15). See also Kanawati - McFarlane, *Akhmin* 1, 36, 202, 276.

⁷⁰ Strudwick, *Administration*, 188. As the title was probably held by one man at a time (*ibid.*, 189), K3(.j)-*pr(w)* probably succeeded *Wd3-h3-Ttj/Nfr-sšm-Pth*, owner of the neighbouring mastaba.

⁷¹ With only one exception, in the reign of Pepy II (*ibid.*, 214).

⁷² *Wb* 3, 484. Badawy translates the title as overseer of the two fowl ponds (*ꜥAnkhmꜥahor*, 50) and James as overseer of the two pools (*Khentika*, 10).

- agriculture, crafts, etc. The title was held by viziers and at the same time by at least one non-vizier who assisted the vizier in his many responsibilities.⁷³
- 5- *jmj-r gs-pr* 'overscer of the workcentre'.⁷⁴ The title appears to be related in some way to the responsibilities of the *jmj-r k3t nbt nt nswt*,⁷⁵ and might represent an earlier stage of *K3(.j)-pr(w)*'s career.
 - 6- *jrj-p^ct* 'hereditary prince'. With a few exceptions, this rank is usually held by viziers. However, other examples of non-vizier holders of the title are known in the Teti cemetery.⁷⁶
 - 7- *h3tj-^c* 'count'.
 - 8- *hrj-sš3 n pr-dw3t* 'privy to the secret of the house of morning'. The title appears to have been held by a rather small and specially favoured group of men within the royal court concerned with personal attendance on the king in the house of morning.⁷⁷
 - 9- *[hrj-s]š3 n nswt* 'privy to the secret of the king'. The title seems related to the preceding one.
 - 10- *hrj-hbt* 'lector priest'.
 - 11- *hrj-tp nswt* 'royal chamberlain'.⁷⁸

K3(.j)-pr(w)'s career may be traced in two stages with marked advancement in both his honorific and functional titles. Nowhere in his offering chamber or on his sarcophagus are the ranks of *jrj-p^ct* and *h3tj-^c* or the particularly important administrative offices of *jmj-r zš^c nswt* and *jmj-r k3t nbt nt nswt* mentioned. They are included in the inscriptions on the entrance to the tomb where the rank of *jrj-p^ct* is especially emphasised. The quality of reliefs on the entrance blocks is also far superior to that in the offering chamber.

The Son of Ka-aper

NAME

*Jhjj*⁷⁹ 'Ihi'.

TITLES

- 1- *jmj-r gs-pr* 'overseer of the workcentre'.
- 2- *hrj-tp nswt* 'royal chamberlain'.

He appears in front of his father on the right entrance jamb with the designation *z3.f smsw* 'his eldest son'. Another figure, wearing a panther's skin, is only partly

⁷³ Kanawati, *Governmental Reforms*, 25-27, 39 n.44; Strudwick, *Administration*, 239.

⁷⁴ Fischer, *MMJ*, 159-60. Firth - Gunn translates *gs-pr* as 'royal domains' (*Teti Pyr. Cem.* 1, 107), Lichtheim as 'district officials' (*Literature* 1, 20), and both Junker (*Giza* 5, 48, 198) and Roccati (*Littérature*, 193) as 'administration'.

⁷⁵ Strudwick, *Administration*, 222.

⁷⁶ For instance *Nj-k3w-Jzzj* (ibid, 105) and *Jšff* (El-Khouli - Kanawati, *Saqqara* 2, 25-26, pls. 17-19).

⁷⁷ Blackman, *JEA* 5 [1918], 148-65; Helck, *Beamtenitel*, 43; Fischer, *Dendera*, 137-38. James translates it as 'Keeper of the secrets of the Bathroom' (*Khentika*, 10).

⁷⁸ Helck, *Beamtenitel*, 60, 105.

⁷⁹ Ranke, *Personennamen* 1, 44:22.

preserved in the same position on the left jamb. This may represent the same, or another son, but no inscriptions survived.

The Dependents of Ka-aper

NAME

*Jdw*⁸⁰ 'Idu'.

TITLES

- 1- *jmj-r pr* 'overseer of the house'.
- 2- *jmj-r sšr* 'overseer of the linen'.
- 3- *shd hm-k3* 'superintendent of the ka-servants'.

He is depicted facing *K3(.j)-pr(w)* on the right thickness of the entrance to the tomb.

NAME

*Nsw*⁸¹ 'Nesu'.

TITLE

hrp zh 'director of the food-hall'.

He is the only offering bearer designated by name in the offering chamber.

II DATING OF KA-APER

In dating the tomb of *K3(.j)-pr(w)*, its location in the so-called 'rue de tombeaux' should certainly be taken into account. The dates of the other three tombs in this street have been reconsidered by Strudwick, who reasonably suggests a date in the reign of Teti for *Nfr-sšm-R*⁸² and *nh-m-ḥr*.⁸² He then emphasises the importance of the third tomb, that of *Wd3-ḥ3-Ttj/Nfr-sšm-Pth/Ššj*, for the dating of the Teti Pyramid Cemetery, pointing out that the tomb may be divided into two parts, in the first of which the titles connect the owner with the pyramid of Teti, while in the second they connect him with both Teti and Pepy I. The tomb is accordingly placed in the reign of Teti to early Pepy I.⁸³ While there can be no doubt that some of the building and/or decoration was carried out in the tomb of *Wd3-ḥ3-Ttj* early in the reign of Pepy I, this should not automatically influence the dating of other tombs in the cemetery and particularly those in the 'rue de tombeaux'. It appears that this

⁸⁰ Ibid, 54:10.

⁸¹ Ibid, 173:12.

⁸² *Administration*, 75, 100-101, 112. See also Kanawati, *Egyptian Administration*, 152 [60], 153 [190]. Harpur, on the other hand, thinks that *nh-m-ḥr* is to be dated to late Teti-early Pepy I (*Decoration*, 273 [374]).

⁸³ Strudwick, *Administration*, 111. This date is supported by Harpur (*Decoration*, 273 [384]). See also Editorial foreword in *JEA* 66 (1980), 2.

street was initially planned as a single project, with areas of land allocated to favoured officials and royal relatives at almost the same time. However, it also seems that work on certain mastabas started before others, but not by a long time, perhaps as a result of the owner reaching a certain age or status. Thus while the mastaba of *ḥnḥ-m-ḥr* is built against, and therefore later than, that of *Nfr-sšm-Rḥ*, archaeological evidence suggests that he and *Wd3-ḥ3-Ttj* built their tombs at the same time as a single building project.⁸⁴ The relative chronology of the tombs of *Wd3-ḥ3-Ttj* and *K3(.j)-ḥpr(w)* is not clear from extant archaeological evidence, but there is no reason for thinking that *K3(.j)-ḥpr(w)* started the construction of his mastaba long after his neighbour. The data from *K3(.j)-ḥpr(w)*'s tomb should now be considered.

Although not lacking in Dynasty 6, the name *K3(.j)-ḥpr(w)*, as indicated above, was more common in the Fifth Dynasty. As for his offices, *K3(.j)-ḥpr(w)* does not possess a sufficient number of the titles studied by Baer in his ranking system to allow placing him in a specific period.⁸⁵ The mastaba is constructed of mud brick, the first as such in the 'rue de tombeaux'. Although the false door, its niche and the entrance to the tomb are formed of monolithic blocks of good limestone, and although the relief, particularly on the entrance, is among the finest in the cemetery, the use of mud brick for the external walls of the mastaba sets *K3(.j)-ḥpr(w)* apart from the higher officials of Teti,⁸⁶ and also apart from his immediate neighbour in the 'rue de tombeaux', *Wd3-ḥ3-Ttj/Nfr-sšm-Pth/Ššj*. There are, nevertheless, architectural similarities with the latter's tomb. In each, an entry vestibule opens northward into a small room leading to an east-west offering chamber in which a high L-shaped offering table/bench extends across the width of the west wall in front of the false door and along the north wall.⁸⁷

Certain details in the scenes and inscriptions are useful as dating criteria. The earliest dated examples of a shoulder-length wig covering the ears occurs in tombs where the cartouche of Teti is inscribed. However, this type of wig becomes popular under Pepy I and Pepy II.⁸⁸ A perfume jar which is held between the forefinger and thumb is a rather uncommon feature and found mainly in tombs dated to the period late Teti-Pepy I,⁸⁹ although isolated examples exist from later in the Old Kingdom.⁹⁰ The representation of *K3(.j)-ḥpr(w)* on the panel of his false

⁸⁴ Ibid, 2.

⁸⁵ *Rank and Title*, 232ff. This ranking system now needs complete revision (see also Franke, *JEA* 79 [1993], 291) and is currently being studied.

⁸⁶ In addition to the viziers of the period, *K3(.j)-ḥpr(w)* should be compared with *Nj-kw-Jzzj*, who was *jrj-pḥt jmj-r Šmḥ jmj-r k3t nbt nt nswt* and who owned a fully decorated stone mastaba (unpublished; see Strudwick, *Administration*, 105).

⁸⁷ Capart, *Rue de tombeaux* 2, pl. 94; Porter - Moss, *Bibliography* 3, pl. 54; and personal examination.

⁸⁸ Cherpion, *Mastabas et hypogées*, 57-58.

⁸⁹ Duell, *Mereruka*, pl. 117; James, *Khentika*, pl. 21; Capart, *Rue de tombeaux*, pl. 102 (this false door is unlikely to belong to a tomb in the rue de tombeaux); Davies et al., *Saqqâra Tombs* 1, pl. 12; Simpson, *Qar and Idu*, fig. 30; Davies, *Deir el-Gebrâwi* 2, pl. 17 (for recent dating see Kanawati - McFarlane, *Akhmim* 1, 62-68); Kanawati, *El-Hawawish* 9, 29; Alliot, *Tell Edfou 1933*, pl. 14; Ziegler, *Catalogue des stèles*, 78-81.

⁹⁰ For example in the tomb of *Mrjj-ḥ3* (Kanawati, *El-Hagarsa* 3, 39, pls. 42-43, 46b; the detail is not clear in Petrie, *Athribis*, pl. 7).

door seated on a chair with bull's legs is curious. This type of chair was gradually superseded by that with lion's legs,⁹¹ and at the provincial site of Akhmim, where the change is documented, it is evident that it took place round the reign of Teti.⁹² In the Teti cemetery at Saqqara the new style with lion's legs was already fashionable,⁹³ and *K3(.j)-ꜥpr(w)* himself used it on both jambs of his entrance doorway. The depiction of the chair with bull's legs on the panel of the false door might be due to conservatism which seems more likely to be shown on false doors than in wall scenes.⁹⁴

At this stage a comparison with the tomb of *Jdw* at Giza (G7102)⁹⁵ might be useful. Like *K3(.j)-ꜥpr(w)*, *Jdw* was both *hrj-tp nswt* and *jmj-r hwt-wrt*. He was not *jmj-r zš ꜥ nswt*, but was *zš ꜥ nswt hft-hr*. Neither was he *jmj-r k3t nbt nt nswt*, but his son *Q3r* was *jmj-r k3t nbt* and *jmj-r zš n k3t nbt*.⁹⁶ Both *K3(.j)-ꜥpr(w)* and *Jdw* represent chairs with bull's legs on their false doors, but not in the scenes of their chapels. *Jdw* has an engaged bust statue in the lower part of his false door.⁹⁷ This highly unusual feature is absent in the case of *K3(.j)-ꜥpr(w)*, but his neighbour, *Nfr-sšm-Pth*, has a bust statue in the panel of his false door.⁹⁸ The palaeography on the façades of the tombs of *K3(.j)-ꜥpr(w)* and *Jdw*⁹⁹ shows many similarities and the determinatives for the oryxes and the oxen are the same in the two tombs, where five thousands of fowl are requested as offerings.¹⁰⁰

Two unusual features attract attention in *K3(.j)-ꜥpr(w)*'s tomb. The first is that unlike the majority of officials, and certainly all the higher ones, buried in this cemetery, *K3(.j)-ꜥpr(w)* does not hold any priesthood. In this respect he may be compared with other officials who are likely to date in the transitional period between Teti-Userkare-Pepy I.¹⁰¹ The second unusual feature in *K3(.j)-ꜥpr(w)*'s tomb is the damage which the façade of his mastaba has suffered. Many tombs in the Teti cemetery have the names and frequently the figures of their owners chiselled out; but this was always done systematically throughout the tomb and very carefully to the signs and figures without affecting the background. This is believed to be a sort of punishment for these tomb owners, presumably as a result of their

⁹¹ Fischer, *Varia*, 4. The earlier type reappeared in the Middle Kingdom (Vandier, *Manuel* 4, 84).

⁹² Kanawati - McFarlane, *Akhmim* 1, 30.

⁹³ It is interesting that elsewhere in this cemetery *Mrw* changed/corrected a chair in his wall scenes from bull's legs into lion's legs (Lloyd et al., *Saqqara Tombs* 2, 15, pl. 9; Malek, *DE* 20 [1991], 99).

⁹⁴ Compare for example the type of chair on the false door of *Jdw* (Simpson, *Qar and Idu*, fig. 40) with that in his wall scenes (ibid, figs. 39, 41), and the type on *Ttj*'s false door (Simpson, *Western Cemetery* 1, figs. 18 and perhaps 16) with that on his walls (ibid, figs. 21, 23-24). See also the false door of *Nfr-sšm-Pth* in the Egyptian Museum (Capart, *Rue de Tombeaux*, pl. 102).

⁹⁵ Simpson, *Qar and Idu*, 19ff., pls. 15ff., figs. 33ff.

⁹⁶ Ibid, 18. For a study of the last two titles see Strudwick, *Administration*, 201ff., 217ff.

⁹⁷ Simpson, *Qar and Idu*, pl. 29.

⁹⁸ Capart, *Rue de tombeaux*, pls. 94-96.

⁹⁹ Simpson, *Qar and Idu*, fig. 33.

¹⁰⁰ For a comment on the number of fowl requested for offerings see Lapp, *Opferformel*, §214; El-Khouli - Kanawati, *Quseir el-Amarna*, 24.

¹⁰¹ See for example *Mhj* (El-Khouli - Kanawati, *Saqqara* 2, 12ff.), *Hzzj* (ibid, 18ff.) and *Jšfj* (ibid, 25ff).

involvement in one of the conspiracies against Teti or Pepy I.¹⁰² The case of *K3(.j)-ꜥpr(w)* is different in that the whole surface, not only the name and figure, was chiselled out on the entire upper part of the south entrance jamb, and that the scenes and inscriptions in the rest of the tomb are intact. The exact implication of this is not clear, but the evidence seems to suggest that *K3(.j)-ꜥpr(w)* lived at the transitional time Teti-Userkare-Pepy I, when there appear to have been problems with succession and allegiance.

Suggested date: End Teti-early Pepy I.

III ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES

Pls. 14, 47, 48.

The mastaba of *K3(.j)-ꜥpr(w)* is located in the 'rue de tombeaux', approximately 10 metres to the north of *Nfr-sšm-Pth* and on the same western side of that street. It is constructed largely of tafel bricks which incorporate pieces of broken pottery and stone chips and measure .30m. x .15m. x .07m., with some elements at the entrance and in the offering chapel formed of limestone blocks. Internally the brick walls were coated with a layer .01-.03m. thick of Nile mud plaster bound with some straw and small stones. This was covered with a thinner layer of creamy yellow tafel-like plaster and then finished with a coat of fine hard white plaster. Evidence of plaster is preserved on the walls of all chambers except room VI, but the only evidence of painted decoration are traces of red colour, apparently the remains of three male figures, on the west wall of room V.

The dimensions of the mastaba superstructure are 10.15m. N-S x 8.80m. E-W. The upper part has disappeared so no original heights of walls, ceilings or doorways can be provided. It may be assumed that the rooms had vaulted brick ceilings. The façade wall, 1.20m. thick, presently stands to a maximum height of 2.15m., and that part forming the east wall of room II is largely destroyed. The entrance is located at the southern end of the east wall of the mastaba, the jambs, threshold and internal door recess all formed of blocks of fine quality white limestone, as were presumably the now missing lintel and drum. Both door jambs and thicknesses are decorated in incised relief, but that on the southern jamb has almost entirely been chiselled away with a very small portion remaining in the lower part. In front of the entrance a stone step .07m. high spans the full width of a recess 2.40m. wide x .15m. deep. Formed of two blocks of limestone and projecting slightly from the brick façade, the step measures .26m. deep at the north end and .22m. at the south end. Into it are cut six small offering basins, three on either side of the doorway. From the south they measure .16m. x .15m. x .02m. deep, .145m. x .075m. x .04m. deep, .14m. x .05m. x .03m. deep, .10m. x .06m. x .03m. deep, .13m. x .07m. x .03m. deep, .20m. x .15m. x .03m. deep.

The entrance doorway, with a south jamb .92m. wide and a north jamb .75m. wide, is .75m. wide x .45m. thick and has a present height of 2.10m. The lintel and drum have disappeared, the latter perhaps originally resting in two small ledges,

¹⁰² Kanawati, *Chron. d'Ég.* 56 [1981], 203ff.; idem, *Saqqara* I, 11-12.

.10m. x .10m. x .15m. high, cut at the top on the inside corners of the door thicknesses. The entrance relief was cut directly into the stone with no plaster facing, but a small section near the top of the south door thickness was repaired at the time of construction with a hard white plaster into which signs subsequently were carved. The two large entrance blocks are cut to form an internal door recess which measures 1.28m. N-S x .52m. E-W on the south side and .62m. on the north side, with a jamb on the south of .15m. and another on the north of .28m. Cut into the stone threshold just inside the north jamb is a socket for a door pivot, with a diameter of .15m. and a depth of .075m. In both side walls of the internal door recess at a height of .90m. above the floor level are neatly cut holes for a door bolt, each with a width of .24m., a height of .18m., and a depth of .10m.

The doorway opens into an entrance vestibule (room I) which measures 1.80m. N-S on the east wall and 1.95m. on the west wall x 1.70m. E-W. The present maximum wall height is 2.45m. At the west end of the north wall a recess 1.00m. wide x .15m. deep and a small stone step up of .04m. defines a doorway .70m. wide x .85m. thick. The door leads to room II which measures 2.20m. N-S x 1.70m. E-W. At the east end of the north wall of this chamber a doorway .70m. wide x .70m. thick, with a recess on the north side .95m. wide x .15m. deep, gives access to the offering chapel.

The offering chamber (room III) is 2.80m. E-W x 2.75m. N-S and has a present maximum height of 2.80m. The west wall is occupied by a false door set in a niche which is 1.70m. wide x .55m. deep. Both the door and the side walls of the niche are formed of large limestone blocks decorated in relief and placed on a stone offering bench. The false door, with two pairs of jambs, is 1.30m. wide and 2.40m. high to the top of the torus moulding; the cornice above has disappeared. The measurements of the door are: upper lintel 1.27m. x .29m.; central panel .58m. x .44m. with side apertures each .05m. wide; lower lintel .68m. x .20m.; drum .145m. x .10m.; outer jambs 2.00m. x .30m.; inner jambs 1.35m. x .26m.; central niche 1.22m. x .145m. The side walls of the recess measure .50m. N-S x .55m. E-W, that on the south broken above a height of 1.21m. and on the north above 2.00m. The stone platform, .40m. high and .27m. deep, extends the full width of the west wall and continues along the west part of the north wall for a length of 1.15m. with a depth of .525m.

In the west wall of the entrance vestibule (room I) is a doorway .80m. wide x .83m. thick which is defined by a recess 1.10m. wide x .15m. deep. Within the doorway are two stone steps, the first .30m. high x .60m. deep and the second .20m. high x .35m. deep. The doorway gives access to room IV, a corridor-like chamber which measures 4.70m. E-W x 1.50m. N-S and has a floor sloping very gently upward to the west. Its walls have a present maximum height of 2.25m.

In the middle of the north wall a doorway .52m. wide x .80m. thick leads to room V which measures 2.70m. N-S x 1.90m. E-W. Fragmentary traces of red paint on the west wall may be the remains of male figures in a slaughtering scene. To the east of the doorway, a niche constructed in the south wall has a sill height .65m. above floor level. The floor of the niche projects .125m. from the south wall and measures .55m. wide (E-W) x .70m. deep (N-S). The ceiling is gone and the back wall is smoothed to an approximate height of 1.10m.

At the south extremity of the east wall of room V is a half-arch doorway .57m. wide with a height of .75m. at the north thickness and 1.20m. at the south thickness. This small doorway leads to room VI which measures 2.70m. N-S x .80m. E-W. The function of this room is uncertain, but this is the only chamber in the mastaba which retains no traces of plaster.

At the far west end of room IV another doorway constructed in the north wall, defined by an entrance recess 1.05m. wide x .15m. deep, measures .65m. wide x .65m. thick. It opens into a small chamber (room VII) which is 1.05m. E-W x 1.15m. N-S. To the north of this room is the mouth of shaft 1.

IV BURIAL APARTMENTS

Pls. 47, 48.

- 1 Located to the south of the main burial apartment and directly behind the north wall of room VII is a small and unfinished shaft with a mouth measuring 1.15m. N-S x .90m. E-W. Presumably it was entered from the roof level, as the shaft walls lined with mud brick stand well above the floor level of the mastaba. It is cut into the native rock to a depth of 6.00m. where work appears to have been abandoned when its north wall broke through into the SE corner of the shaft of the tomb owner.
- 2 The main burial shaft is located at the NW corner of the mastaba, directly west of the false door of *K3(.j)-ꜥpr(w)* in his offering chamber (room V) and presumably was entered from the roof. The mouth of the shaft is 2.80m. square, and above the level of the mastaba floor has retaining walls constructed of mud brick which are presently preserved to a height of 1.55m. The shaft descends through the native rock to a depth of 14.00m. at the floor of the burial chamber. It is likely that roughly cut notches on the east wall functioned as footholds. The upper half of the shaft is well cut through sandstone banded with shale, but the walls of the lower half, cut in a harder rock formation, are very rough and irregular with no smooth surfaces or clean corners. The floor of the shaft is uneven with large areas of uncut rock remaining on the south and east, and is partly finished only in the northwest section which slopes down towards the burial chamber. It would appear that cutting in the lower part may have been restricted to that required in order to lower vertically the large limestone sarcophagus of *K3(.j)-ꜥpr(w)* and manoeuvre it into the burial chamber. The entire west wall and a good portion of the north are cut away to produce an opening approximately 3.50m. wide and 3.25m. high which gives access to the burial chamber.

Oriented N-S at a 40° angle to the west wall of the shaft, the burial chamber is irregularly-shaped and incompletely cut with few smooth surfaces. It measures 5.50m. N-S on the east side x 5.20m. on the west wall x 3.35m. E-W on the north wall and 3.95m. on the south wall. The rough ceiling, with many cracks and fissures, slopes slightly downward to give a height of 3.20m. at the west wall. The south wall is cleanly cut from the floor level to a height of about .70m. and, above this, work was begun to extend the wall further to the south.

The west wall and a small section at the west end of the north wall are quite well cut to a height of approximately 1.00m. above the floor level. The floor area has been levelled and smoothed only in the area surrounding the sarcophagus. Beneath the sarcophagus is a well cut pit .80m. E-W x 3.60m. N-S x .55m. deep. To the east of and parallel to the pit a section of the floor with maximum measurements of .60m. wide at the south end and 2.35m. along the west side is cleanly cut to depths of .45m. in the western part and .22m. in the eastern part.

Resting on loose stones and rubble above the pit is the large sarcophagus of *K3(.j)-ꜥpr(w)*, cut from good quality limestone, but with the surfaces only roughly finished. Found empty and damaged by tomb robbers there are several breaks in the sarcophagus, particularly at the northern head end where pieces have also been broken from the lid. Most of these fragments were recovered during the excavations to enable a complete record to be made of the inscriptions incised on the sarcophagus and its lid. The chest measures externally 3.10m. long x 1.63m. wide x 1.40m. high. The internal measurements are 2.22m. long x .70m. wide x .66m. high, with the thicknesses of the four sides varying from .40-.50m. The lid has a width of 1.63m. and an average height of .56m.; the length cannot be accurately measured as the north end is missing.

V SCENES AND INSCRIPTIONS

The chapel is constructed of mud brick, then plastered and whitewashed, but the only evidence of painted decoration are fragments of red colour, perhaps the remains of male figures, preserved on the west wall of room V. Monolithic blocks of good quality limestone form each of the two sides of the entrance doorway, the false door, the false door niche thicknesses and the offering bench. The architrave above the entrance and the cornice of the false door are now missing. Most of these blocks received decoration. All inscriptions are incised while the figures are in sunken relief with good modelling, and details of body muscles, as well as the structure of faces, hands, feet, etc. are well rendered. The hieroglyphic signs show a great deal of internal details. In general, the work on the entrance blocks is far superior to that on the false door and the offering chamber. It is likely that the façade was the last to be decorated,¹⁰³ and there *K3(.j)-ꜥpr(w)* holds higher titles than those attributed to him on his false door and sarcophagus.

The North Entrance Jamb

Pls. 14-17, 49b.

The upper half is occupied by seven vertical (1-7) and one horizontal (8) lines of hieroglyphs which read: (1) *mrr(w) nswt pw mrr(w) Jnpw tpj dw.f pw rmt nb hm-k3* (2) *sw3.tj.fj hr wst tn m hd hsft st n(.j) mrr* (3) *rdj n(.j) t hnqt m ntt m-ht.tn*

¹⁰³ See also James, *Khentika*, 13.

*jr nfr n wnn t hnqt mw*¹⁰⁴ *m-ht.tn*¹⁰⁵ (4) *dd.k3.tn m r.tn wdn*¹⁰⁶ *m ʕ.tn h3 m t hnqt* (5) *h3 m r h3 m trp h3 m zt h3 m sr h3 m mnwt* (6) *h3 m m3-hd*¹⁰⁷ *h3 m jw3*¹⁰⁸ *sntr wʕb n jmj-r gs-pr hrj-tp nswt jmj-r hwt-wrt* (7) *[j]m3hw hr nswt hr jnpw tpj dw.f hr ntr ʕ nb jmnt* (8) *jrj-pʕt h3tj-ʕ jmj-r gs-pr hrj-tp nswt K3(.j)-ʕpr(w)*
 '(1) Beloved of the king and beloved of Anubis, who is on his hill, is any person or a ka-servant (2) who shall pass by this road in travelling downstream or upstream. Pour water for me (3) and give bread and beer to me from that which is in your possession. If there are no bread, beer and water in your possession (4) (then) shall you say with your mouth and make offering with your hand:¹⁰⁹ a thousand of bread and beer, (5) a thousand of *r*-geese, a thousand of *trp*-geese, a thousand of *zt*-geese, a thousand of *sr*-geese, a thousand of pigeons, (6) a thousand of oryxes, a thousand of oxen and pure incense for the overseer of the workcentre, the royal chamberlain, the overseer of the great court, (7) the honoured one before the king, before Anubis who is on his hill, and before the great god lord of the west'.

The horizontal line (8) is a caption identifying the tomb owner as: 'the hereditary prince, the count, the overseer of the workcentre, the royal chamberlain, Ka-aper', who is shown seated, facing towards the entrance and invoking.¹¹⁰ The gesture of his right hand may be interpreted as an invitation to the passer-by to enter his tomb and perhaps present him with offerings as indicated in the inscriptions above.¹¹¹ *dd.f* 'he says', written before his face, might refer to the words above as well as to those on the adjoining north entrance thickness.

Similar invoking figures are found on the façades of a number of the large mastabas in the Teti cemetery. *K3(.j)-ʕpr(w)* sits on a chair with lion's legs and low, cushioned back. He wears a shoulder-length wig, a beard, a collar, bracelets, a sash across his chest and a pleated kilt. Like the figure of *Hntj-k3.j* preserved on his northern entrance jamb,¹¹² *K3(.j)-ʕpr(w)* invokes with one hand and holds a sceptre in the other. As there is no evidence of a staff near his feet on the south jamb it seems that, unlike *Hntj-k3.j* and others,¹¹³ *K3(.j)-ʕpr(w)* is depicted on the south jamb invoking but also holding a sceptre.

On a separate base line in front of the tomb owner stands a small male figure wearing a shoulder-length wig, a collar, a sash and a pointed kilt. He is identified as *z3.f smsw jmj-r gs-pr hrj-tp nswt jmbhw jhjj* 'his eldest son, the overseer of the workcentre, the royal chamberlain, the honoured one, Ihi'.

¹⁰⁴ For the expression 'bread, beer and water' see James, *Khentika*, 39, pl. 6; Lloyd et al., *Saqqâra Tombs* 2, pl. 22.

¹⁰⁵ For the use of *m-ht* see Edel, *Grammatik*, §797.

¹⁰⁶ *wdn* is elliptical for *wdu.k3.tn* (ibid., §553, b).

¹⁰⁷ The determinative is identical to that in the tomb of *Jdw* at Giza, where the animal is identified as *m3-hd* (Simpson, *Qar and Idu*, 20-21, fig. 33).

¹⁰⁸ An identical determinative in the tomb of *Jdw* is identified as *jw3* (ibid.).

¹⁰⁹ This probably means that the spoken words should be accompanied by the appropriate gesture of offering (Lloyd et al., *Saqqâra Tombs* 2, 38 n.3).

¹¹⁰ For this posture see Harpur, *Decoration*, 129-30; LÄ 2, 573-85.

¹¹¹ Similarly Harpur explains the depictions of the tomb owner on the entrance thicknesses facing outwards as 'awaiting the approach of visitors' (*Decoration*, 53).

¹¹² James, *Khentika*, pl. 6.

¹¹³ Ibid., pl. 5; Badawy, *Ankhemahor*, fig. 23.

The South Entrance Jamb

Pls. 14, 15, 49a.

Apart from the bottom part of a scene on the lower section of this jamb, all the inscriptions on the upper part have been completely removed by deliberate chiselling. The decoration surviving in the lower part shows the pleated kilt and feet of the tomb owner seated on a chair with lion's legs. Standing at his feet is part of a small male figure, perhaps his son, wearing a leopard's skin.

The North Entrance Thickness

Pls. 18, 50b.

The upper half is occupied by four vertical (1-4) and two horizontal (5-6) lines of text that read: (1) *pr.n(.j) m njwt(.j) h3.n(.j) m sp3t(.j) jr.n(.j)* (2) *m3t n nb.s shtp.n(.j) ntr m mrrt.f* (3) *rdj(.j) t u hqr hbs n h3jj su3(.j) t3* (4) *m jwty mhnt.f jnk dd nfr w3un nfr* (5) *jm3hw hr ntr 3* (6) *jrj-p3t jmj-r gs-pr K3(.j)-3pr(w)* '(1) I came forth from my town, and descended from my province. I carried out (2) justice for its lord, and satisfied god with what he loves. (3) I gave bread to the hungry and clothing to the naked. I brought to land (4) he who had no ferry-boat. I was one who said what was good and who reported what was good. (5) The honoured one before the great god, (6) the hereditary prince, the overseer of the workcentre, Ka-aper'.

The tomb owner is depicted in the prime of life, but is represented with abbreviated shoulder, which is mostly associated with older-looking figures.¹¹⁴ He wears a cap wig, a long, projecting kilt, bracelets and sandals and holds a staff. *K3(.j)-3pr(w)* is shown here, as on the opposite thickness, facing outwards which, contrary to the earlier interpretation of leaving his tomb,¹¹⁵ is now explained by Harpur as standing at the entrance, awaiting the approach of visitors.¹¹⁶ Facing the tomb owner is a small figure of a man presenting him with a *hz-jar*. He is labelled: *jmj-r pr jmj-r s3r shd hm-k3 Jdw* 'the overseer of the house, the overseer of the linen, the superintendent of the ka-servants, Idu'.

The South Entrance Thickness

Pls. 19, 50a.

Four vertical (1-4) and two horizontal (5-6) lines of hieroglyphs occupy the upper space and read: (1) *[jmj]-r z3 3 nswt jmj-r k3t nbt nt uswt* (2) *hrj-tp nswt jmj-r hwt-wrt jmj-r z3wj* (3) *hrj-hbt hrj-s3t3 n pr-dw3t* (4) *jm3hw hr Wsjr nb Ddw*¹¹⁷ (5) *jm3hw hr Jnpw tpj dw.f* (6) *jrj-p3t jmj-r gs-pr K3(.j)-3pr(w)* '(1) The overseer of the scribes of the king's documents, the overseer of all the works of the king, (2) the royal chamberlain, the overseer of the great court, the overseer of the two fowl

¹¹⁴ Harpur, *Decoration*, 133-34.

¹¹⁵ Hassan, *Giza* 3, 101-102; vol. 6:3, 150.

¹¹⁶ *Decoration*, 53.

¹¹⁷ For the writing of *Ddw* as *Ddw* in this cemetery see Davies et al., *Saqqâra Tombs* 1, fig. 26.

pools, (3) the lector priest, the one who is privy to the secret of the house of morning, (4) the honoured one before Osiris, lord of Busiris, (5) the honoured one before Anubis, who is on his hill, (6) the hereditary prince, the overseer of the workcentre, Ka-aper'. Below the inscriptions is a standing figure of the tomb owner depicted in the same manner as on the opposite thickness.

Room III: The Offering Chamber

THE FALSE DOOR

Pls. 20, 51.

The Upper Lintel: Two horizontal (1-2) and one vertical (3) lines of hieroglyphs read: (1) *h̄tp dj nswt h̄tp Jnpw tpj d̄w.f jmj wt nb t̄z d̄sr* (2) *h̄tp dj nswt Wsjr h̄ntj D̄d̄w qrs.tj.f m h̄rt-n̄tr* (3) *jmj-r gs-pr K̄3(.j)-ꜥpr(w)* '(1) An offering which the king gives and an offering which Anubis, who is on his hill, who is in the embalming place, lord of the sacred land (gives). (2) An offering which the king gives and Osiris, foremost of Busiris (gives), that he be buried in the necropolis. (3) The overseer of the workcentre, Ka-aper'. To the left is a figure of the tomb owner holding a staff and sitting on a chair with bull's legs.

The Central Panel: The tomb owner sits on a chair with bull's legs wearing a shoulder-length wig and a short, tight kilt. He stretches his right hand to an offering table with fourteen half-loaves of bread and holds in his left hand a perfume jar with his forefinger and thumb. Two ewers in basins, two jars and a calf's head on a tray are also depicted. Above the scene is written: *jm̄h̄w h̄r n̄tr ʕ h̄rj-tp nswt K̄3(.j)-ꜥpr(w)* 'The honoured one before the great god, the royal chamberlain, Ka-aper'.

The Lower Lintel: The arrangement is similar to that on the upper lintel, except that the figure to the left is standing and holding a staff and a sceptre. (1) *jm̄h̄w h̄r h̄ntj-jm̄ntjw* (2) *jm̄h̄w h̄r nswt h̄r n̄tr ʕ nb pt* (3) *jmj-r gs-pr K̄3(.j)-ꜥpr(w)* '(1) The honoured one before Khentiamentiu, (2) the honoured one before the king and before the great god, lord of heaven, (3) the overseer of the workcentre, Ka-aper'.

The Drum: *K̄3(.j)-ꜥpr(w)* 'Ka-aper'.

The Jambs: Each jamb contains two vertical (1-2) and one horizontal (3) lines of hieroglyphs, the last containing only the tomb owner's name. Below this, in each case, is a depiction of *K̄3(.j)-ꜥpr(w)* wearing a shoulder-length wig, a beard, a collar and a pointed kilt and holding a staff and a sceptre.

The Right Outer Jamb: (1) *h̄tp dj nswt Jnpw tpj d̄w.f jmj wt nb t̄z d̄sr h̄ntj sp̄s* (2) *p̄rt-h̄rw n.f m h̄rt-n̄tr jmj-r gs-pr h̄rj-tp nswt jmj-r h̄wt-wrt* (3) *K̄3(.j)-ꜥpr(w)* '(1) An offering which the king gives and Anubis, who is on his hill, who is in the embalming place, lord of the sacred land, foremost of Sepa¹¹⁸ (gives). (2) May an invocation offering come forth for him in the necropolis. The overseer of the workcentre, the royal chamberlain, the overseer of the great court, (3) Ka-aper'.

¹¹⁸ For a discussion of the possible location of Sepa see Zibelius, *Ziedlungen*, 209-11.

The Left Outer Jamb: (1) *hṭp dj nswt Jnpw hntj zḥ-ntr ḥp.f ḥr wꜣwt jptf* (2) *nfr(w)t nt jmnt ḥpṭt jmꜣḥw ḥr.sn*¹¹⁹ *jmj-r gs-pr* (3) *Kꜣ(.j)-ꜥpr(w)* '(1) An offering which the king gives and Anubis, foremost of the divinc booth (gives). May he travel upon those beautiful roads (2) of the west, upon which the honoured ones travel, the overseer of the workcentre, (3) Ka-aper'.

The Right Inner Jamb: (1) *jmꜣḥw ḥr ntr ʕ nb pt* (2) *jmꜣḥw ḥr Wsjr nb Ddw* (3) *Kꜣ(.j)-ꜥpr(w)* '(1) The honoured one before the great god, lord of heaven, (2) the honoured one before Osiris, lord of Busiris, (3) Ka-aper'.

The Left Inner Jamb: (1) *jmꜣḥw ḥr Jnpw tpj dw.f* (2) *jmj-r gs-pr ḥrj-tp nswt jmj-r ḥwt-wrt* (3) *Kꜣ(.j)-ꜥpr(w)* '(1) The honoured one before Anubis, who is on his hill, (2) the overseer of the workcentre, the royal chamberlain, the overseer of the great court, (3) Ka-aper'.

SIDES OF THE FALSE DOOR

Pl. 52.

On either side of the false door the traditional oils are depicted in superposed registers, each containing a jar and the name of the oil. The north side reads: ... *ḥknw sṯt nḥnm twꜣwt ḥꜣtt nt ṯḥnw* '... *ḥknw* oil, *sṯt* oil, *nḥnm* oil, *twꜣwt* oil, best Libyan oil'. The south side lists the same oils, but *twꜣwt* is replaced by *ḥꜣtt nt ʕš* 'best cedar oil'.

THE FALSE DOOR NICHE

Pls. 21, 22, 53, 54.

Two monolithic limestone blocks, now broken in the upper part, form the sides of a niche into which the false door is set. Each thickness is decorated with a large figure of the tomb owner facing away from the false door, while the jambs of the niche show offering bearers. (See also TNE94:F25 which may have originated from the south side of this niche.)

The North Thickness: The upper section is partly missing, but the remaining part shows three vertical (1-3) and two horizontal (4-5) lines of text: (1) ... (2) ... *ḥrj-ḥꜣtt* (3) ... *[ḥrj-s]šṯt n nswt* (4) *jmꜣḥw ḥr ntr ʕ* (5) *jmj-r gs-pr Kꜣ(.j)-ꜥpr(w)* '(1) ... (2) ... the lector priest, (3) ... privy to the secret of the king, (4) the honoured one before the great god, (5) the overseer of the workcentre, Ka-aper'. Below this the tomb owner stands with the staff and sceptre. He wears a shoulder-length wig, a collar and bracelets, a leopard's skin and a short, pointed kilt.

The South Thickness: The upper section is missing. The lower section shows a figure of *Kꜣ(.j)-ꜥpr(w)* holding the staff and sceptre and wearing a sash and a short, pointed kilt.

¹¹⁹ Lapp, *Opferformel*, §79-80.

The North Jamb: The figures of four offering bearers in superposed registers are preserved, all depicted with cap wig, beard and short kilt. All carry a foreleg of an ox and possibly another cut of meat. Only the man in the lower register is labelled as *hrp zh Nsw* 'the director of the food-hall, Nesu'. A vertical line of inscription explains the action of the men as: ... [*pr*] *n dt*¹²⁰ *jnnt m T3-mhw Šm^cw n k3 jmj-r gs-pr hrj-tp nswt K3(.j)-^cpr(w)* '...¹²¹ of the house of *dt*, which is brought from the North and South for the ka of the overseer of the workcentre, the royal chamberlain, Ka-aper'.

The South Jamb: Similar in composition to the north jamb, only the two lower registers of the south jamb are preserved. In each is depicted an offering bearer with a short wig carrying lotus flowers in the right hand and different offering items in the left. A small gazelle accompanies the man in the upper register. The vertical inscription before them reads: ... *n jmj-r gs-pr hrj-tp nswt jmw hw hr ntr 3 K3(.j)-^cpr(w)* '... for the overseer of the workcentre, the royal chamberlain, the honoured one before the great god, Ka-aper'.

The Sarcophagus

Pls. 23, 28, 55.

The chest of *K3(.j)-^cpr(w)*'s sarcophagus is made of one block of limestone, and its lid of another, both of which were left unsmoothed. Inscriptions exist outside on side 1 (east) of the lid and the chest and on side 3 (north) of the latter, and inside on side 1 of the chest.¹²² All signs and the *wꜥꜥt*-eyes are incised, but very poorly executed¹²³ and presumably unfinished. The left hand section of the lid is also very rough and partly damaged. If the text was left unfinished in this section it would have probably been due to superstition rather than a premature death. A comparison between the titles written on the sarcophagus and those on the entrance shows that *K3(.j)-^cpr(w)* presumably was promoted to a higher level in his career after his sarcophagus was inscribed. Certain signs, particularly human figures in the inscriptions have, as on other contemporary sarcophagi, been suppressed or modified, possibly for the protection of the deceased.

Tomb robbers entered the sarcophagus by breaking through in three different locations, at the top of the northern end of side 1, at the top of side 3 together with side 3 of the lid, and from the bottom of the chest. Two inscribed fragments recovered from the rubble of the burial chamber have been incorporated in the facsimile of the text inscribed on the sarcophagus.

The Lid: The inscription contains an address by *K3(.j)-^cpr(w)* to the priests and cemetery workers(?) who are to take charge of burying him, asking them to secure his heavy lid on its 'mother', i.e. the chest. The appeal is rather unusual, but similar inscriptions are found on the lids of *ꜥnh-m-^cHr* and *Hntj-k3.j*.¹²⁴ The text

¹²⁰ On the significance of the house of *dt* see Perepelkin, *Privateigentum*, 158ff.

¹²¹ The lacuna may be reconstructed as 'bringing the choice food by the ka-servants', or the like.

¹²² Similar arrangement is found on the sarcophagus of *ꜥnh-m-^cHr*, who in addition inscribed the inside of side 3 (Firth - Gunn, *Teti Pyr. Cem.* 1, 98).

¹²³ The same is observed in the case of *ꜥnh-m-^cHr* (ibid, 99).

¹²⁴ Ibid, 98ff.; vol. 2, pl. 58; James, *Khentika*, 65, pl. 39; Sethe, *Urk.* 1. 205.

reads: ... *hrj-tp nswt jmj-[r] hwt-wrt K3(j)-pr(w) dd.f j hrj-hbt wt rmt wbt rmt*
 80 ... (2) ... *jj nswt wnn jmh.tn nfr hr ntr 3 djdj.tn n(.j) 3 pn hr mwt.f jqr jnk*
K3(j)-pr(w) n mwt '(1) ... the royal chamberlain, the overseer of the great court,
 Ka-aper, he says: O lector priest, embalmer, men of the embalming chamber and the
 80 men [of the necropolis]¹²⁵ ... (2) ... of the king and your honour to be well
 before the great god, then you should place for me this lid upon its mother,
 excellently. I am the beloved, Ka-aper'.

Side 1: *K3(j)-pr(w) [wd3t-eyes] jmj-r gs-pr K3(j)-pr(w)* 'Ka-aper [wd3t-eyes],
 the overseer of the workcentre, Ka-aper'.

Side 3: *jmh.w [h]r nswt jmj-r gs-pr K3(j)-pr(w)* 'the honoured one before the
 king, the overseer of the workcentre, Ka-aper'.

Side 1 (inside): *jmj-r gs-pr hrj-tp nswt K3[(j)-pr(w)]* 'the overseer of the
 workcentre, the royal chamberlain, Ka-aper'.

VI FINDS

The tomb of *K3(j)-pr(w)* appears to have been emptied a number of times, the
 most recent of which was by Loret during his work in the 'rue de tombeaux' at the
 very end of the last century. The fill of the shaft contained a number of objects
 which are certainly out of context.

TNE94:69. Pl. 13.

Assortment of small copper tools, several intact but mostly broken, all moderately
 oxidised on the surface.¹²⁶

- A. One large adze, with a splayed blunt end and blade. L 12.0cm. W 2.6cm.
- B. Five spatulate adzes with rounded blunt ends. String marks are visible on the
 narrow ends, where the objects were hafted onto a shaft. L 7.8cm. W 2.5cm.
- C. Six square axes, one edge slightly rounded. L 4.8cm. W 4.0cm.
- D. Fragments of awls/styli (number indeterminate). L 3.8-7.5cm. W 0.2-0.3cm.
- E. Miscellaneous small fragments.

TNE94:70. (not illustrated)

Numerous fragments of copper model dishes and jars, body, base and neck(?)
 fragments discernible. Moderate surface oxidisation. Th 0.1-0.2cm.

TNE94:71. (not illustrated)

- A. Blue-glazed faience shabti, glaze discoloured to black. H 14.3cm. W 4.0cm.
- B. Fragment of a moulded blue-glazed faience shabti, head and upper torso
 remaining. Features indistinct; figure wears a tripartite wig with lappets over
 the shoulders. Some abrasion and discolouration on surface. H 4.7cm.
 W 4.0cm.

¹²⁵ For this expression see references in previous note.

¹²⁶ A similar collection of copper tools was found during ACE work at Saqqara in 1983-8, at the
 bottom of the shaft of *Jhj-m-z3.f* (Kanawati et al., *Saqqara* 1, 23, pl. 9, S83:88). See also
 Firth - Gunn, *Teti Pyr. Cem.* 1, 13, 19, 22, 25, 35.

TNE94:72. Pl. 13.

Three circular limestone objects, with rounded tops and concave underneath. Probably jar stoppers. Traces of yellow paint remaining. Complete.

A. D 5.3cm. Th 1.6cm.

B. D 7.0cm. Th 2.0cm.

C. D 7.5-8.0cm. Th 1.7cm.

Three fragments of jar stoppers. D 5.8cm. Th max. 1.2cm.

TNE94:73. Pl. 13.

Model calcite jar. Cylindrical shape with slightly concave sides, flat-topped ledge rim and flaring base. Complete. H 5.3cm. D rim 4.2cm. D base 3.5cm.

TNE94:74. (not illustrated)

Stone object, circular with concave sides. D 2.3-2.2cm. H 1.5cm.

TNE94:75. (not illustrated)

Pale green stone (feldspar?) *nw*-pot amulet. H 0.8cm. W 0.7cm.

TNE94:76. Pl. 13.

Roughly-modelled small square container of Nile mud with a lid, unfired and hand-formed. Traces of powdery white paint on two sides. Inside the box was a crude hand-formed figure of Nile mud. Figure and lid broken. Box: H 5.8cm. L 8.5cm. W 8.5cm. Th of wall 1.0cm; Lid: L 7.5cm. W 7.5cm. Th 0.5cm.

TNE94:77. Pl. 13.

Roughly-modelled small oval shaped container with lid, handmade from Nile mud, unfired. Lid broken, now mended. H incl. lid 5.6cm. L 9.9cm. W 6.2cm. Th of wall 0.5 cm-1.0cm.

TNE96:78. Pl. 13.

Roughly-modelled rectangular container with rounded corners and lid, handmade of unfired Nile mud. Each side of the box is pierced by two holes about 0.5cm. from the rim, possibly for threading to secure the lid. Traces of white paint or plaster remaining on box and lid. Inside the box was a crudely fashioned clay figure, left foot broken and a model clay headrest. All limbs on the figure were distinguished and crude delineation of the facial features visible; prominent male genitalia present. Base complete, but lid broken in two halves, now mended. Box: H 3.6cm. L 9.9cm. W 7.0cm. Th of walls 0.95cm. Lid: L 10.1cm. W 6.5cm. Th. of lid 1.1 cm. Figure: L 7.55cm. Headrest: 2.85 x 2.2cm.

TNE94:100. Pls. 13, 46.

Squat ceramic vessel with a flaring neck and fluted rim, long spout narrowing towards the end and recessed foot showing marks of tripod support. Rounded handle attached from top of neck to shoulder. Very glossy, smooth turquoise blue glaze over exterior surface. Mended from fragments; handle and spout broken. The nature of the glaze points to an Islamic date for this object. H 8.5cm. W max. 7.8cm. D base 5.5cm. D rim 4.2cm.

TNE94:101 Pls. 13, 46.

Squat ceramic vessel with a long spout narrowing towards the end, flaring rim and a recessed foot. Flat strap handle with thumb-rest applied from neck to shoulder. Raised ridge below handle around neck. Dark green-blue glaze over exterior and interior surfaces, indicative of an Islamic date. Spout broken and other surface wear evident. H 8.0cm. W max. 7.2cm. D base 5.1cm. D rim 4.7cm.

INSCRIBED OBJECTS AND FRAGMENTS

During the excavation seasons of 1994-95, numerous inscribed limestone objects were found in the compact earth and debris which filled chapels and shafts of the Old Kingdom mastabas and also in the looser sand above them. In 1994 the expedition focused on clearing a section where the mastaba of *Ndt-m-pt* was later found, and the majority of fragments were discovered in that vicinity. The tomb of *K3(.j)-ꜥpr(w)* was previously cleared, although not fully recorded, by Loret, hence very few objects or fragments were recovered in this area. Unless otherwise stated the small fragments found in 1994 are from the fill above or in the immediate surroundings of the tomb of *Ndt-m-pt*; only complete or near complete objects are given a more exact location. A grid system instigated in 1995 has enabled the finds of that season to be more precisely located.

The inscribed items are divided into three categories and are listed below with the following references: TNE (Teti Cemetery North-East); SM (*stèle maison*), FD (false door), OT (offering table) or F (fragment) plus the individual registration number. Find spots of objects found in the 1995 season, within the grid system, are provided in parenthesis at the beginning of each entry. Translations are offered where texts are complete, but transliteration only where the context is lacking. Unless otherwise noted there are no remaining traces of paint.

The great majority of the inscribed objects recovered during the excavations may be dated to the late Old Kingdom and these are presented below. Numerous other fragments will appear in a future volume devoted to later burials and related materials recorded from the same area of the Teti Cemetery.

I STÈLE MAISON

TNE95:SM1. Pl. 56.

This object, now stored in the pillared court of *Jšfj* which forms part of the mastaba of his father, *ꜥnh-m-ꜥ-Hr*, was found by the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities, presumably in the near vicinity. As a re-publication of this mastaba is included in our current project, it seems also appropriate to make known the present interesting object. This type of monument, called '*stèle maison*' by Jéquier is currently otherwise attested only in the cemetery of Pepy II and generally dated to the end of Dynasty 6.¹²⁷ The presence of one of these monuments in the Teti cemetery is therefore of interest. There is no doubt that the cemetery remained in use by successive generations during the reign of Pepy II and later, and fragment TNE94:F8 records the cartouche of Neferkarc. But this cemetery, limited in area, appears to have been totally planned and allocated under Teti himself, although some mastabas were completed under Pepy I. Later officials and family members had to dig new shafts and add stela to existing mastabas. The present '*stèle maison*' should be seen in this context.

¹²⁷ Jéquier, *Oudjebten*, 26-31; idem, *Particuliers*, 112-14; Ziegler, *Catalogue des stèles*, 197-99.

The monument is formed of one block of limestone with a rectangular base 69cm. long x 34cm. wide at the base and 31.5cm. wide at the top of the vertical sides which are 37cm. high. Above this the long sides curve inward to form an arched top, resulting in a total height of 43cm. Jéquier thinks this type of object represents a simple, one room house with vaulted roof, hence its name.¹²⁸ Vandier, following Müller, however, reasonably rejects this interpretation and thinks that the object does not represent a stela or a house, but a miniature mastaba.¹²⁹ Decoration in incised relief with little detail is partially preserved on three sides.

The Long Side, Façade

The façade is decorated with a false door of the type with torus moulding and cavetto cornice, flanked on either side by a figure of the owner seated at an offering table. The inscriptions on the false door read as follows:

The Upper Lintel: *pṛt-ḥrw n jmšḥw Ḥḥj*¹³⁰ 'May an invocation offering come forth for the honoured one, Ihi'.

The Central Panel: *ḥ3 t ḥ3 ḥnqt ḥ3 k3 ḥ3 mnḥt n jmšḥw Ḥḥj* 'one thousand of bread, one thousand of beer, one thousand of oxen, one thousand of clothes for the honoured one, Ihi'.

The Lower Lintel: *jmšḥw Ḥḥj* 'The honoured one, Ihi'.

The Left Outer Jamb: *jmj-r pr-šn*¹³¹ *ḥrj-ḥbt jmšḥw Ḥḥj*¹³² 'The overseer of the department of stores, the lector priest, the honoured one, Hehi'.

The Right Outer Jamb: *jmšḥw ḥr nb.f* ... 'The honoured one before his lord, ...'.

The Inner Jambs: *jmšḥw (Ḥḥj)* 'The honoured one, Hehi'.

To the left of the false door the owner is depicted seated on a chair with lion's legs, wearing a short kilt, broad collar and a long wig which does not cover his ear. One of his hands is held clenched to his chest and the other is open and extended towards an offering table which is apparently unfinished, showing six loaves on the left half but none on the right. Under the table on the far side is a chest on which are piled items of food and above are two trays, the lower with three jars and the upper with loaves of bread. The inscriptions above the scene read: *ḥ3 t ḥ3 ḥnqt ḥ3 k3 ḥ3 3pd ḥ3 m3-ḥd ḥ3 šs [ḥ3] mnḥt n jmšḥw ḥr Wsjr Ḥḥj* 'one thousand of bread, one thousand of beer, one thousand of oxen, one thousand of fowl, one thousand of oryxes, one thousand of alabaster and one thousand of clothes for the honoured one before Osiris, Ihi'.

The offering table scene to the right of the false door is damaged in the lower part. The seated figure of the owner is clad in a similar manner to that on the left but also

¹²⁸ Oudjebten, 27.

¹²⁹ Manuel 2, 435-36.

¹³⁰ Ranke, *Personennamen* 1, 44:20.

¹³¹ For this title see Kanawati - McFarlane, *Akhmim* 1, 231.

¹³² Ranke, *Personennamen* 1, 254:12.

wears the sash of a lector priest and bracelets. One hand rests on his lap and the other is extended towards a table with 13 loaves of bread. Beneath it to the left are a ewer and basin. The 'one thousand ...' formula is identical to that on the left side and is followed by: *n jm3h̄w hr ntr 3 nb pt Ihj* 'for the honoured one before the great god, lord of heaven, Hehi'.

The Back Side

On the opposite 'back' side the only surviving decoration, at the lower left end, is a small portion of the legs of a standing male figure facing left and of two columns of inscriptions in front of him. The signs read: 1) ... *hrj-hbt jmj[-r]* ... 2) ... *m* ... 1) ... the lector priest, the overseer ... 2) ... *m* ...

The End

A standing figure of the owner is depicted facing left and wearing a shoulder-length, curled wig which does not cover his ear,¹³³ a beard, a collar, bracelets and a projecting, pleated kilt. He holds a staff and a sceptre and is accompanied by one horizontal (1) and two vertical (2-3) lines of hieroglyphs that read: (1) *jm3h̄w hr Jnpw tpj dw.f Ihj* (2) *jmj-r pr-šn hrj-hbt jm3[h̄w]* (3) *hr ntr 3 Ihj rn.f nfr Jh̄lj* '(1) The honoured one before Anubis, who is on his hill, Ihi. (2) The overseer of the department of stores, the lector priest, the honoured one (3) before the great god, Hehi, his beautiful name, Ihi'.

II FALSE DOORS

The street between *Ndt-m-pt* and *Špsj-pw-Pth* is fully occupied by shafts presumably dating between the late Old Kingdom and First Intermediate Period. These are characterised by small mouths and are arranged in an orderly fashion to maximise use of the limited space. A number of small false doors and offering tables were found in the loose debris filling this street and the area above the chapel of *Ndt-m-pt* to a height of 3.0m. It seems likely that such inscribed objects originally belonged to these shafts and were moved, perhaps at the time that this cemetery was first robbed. The area to the east of *Ndt-m-pt* has not yet been completely cleared. The intrusive burials (to be published) were all later than these objects, even if sometimes they were dug to a lower depth.

TNE94:FD1. Pls. 24, 57.

The upper part of the false door of *Nw-hjj-hwt-k3w* was found near the SW corner of *Ndt-m-pt*'s mastaba at a height approximately 2.50m. above floor level. Of the type with torus moulding and cavetto cornice, it is decorated in incised relief of good style. W 44.5cm. (W cornice 47.0cm.) present max. H 38.0cm.

¹³³ This type became particularly frequent during the reigns of Pepy I-Pepy II (Cherpion, *Mastabas et hypogées*, 57-58).

The Upper Lintel: (1) *htp dj nswt htp dj Jnpw prt-hrw.f*¹³⁴ (2) *m jmsḥw ḥr ntr ʕ* (3) *špsj nswt smr pr Nw-hjj-ḥwt-k3w*¹³⁵ '(1) An offering which the king gives and an offering which Anubis gives. May his invocation offering come forth (2) as an honoured one before the great god, (3) the nobleman of the king, the companion of the house,¹³⁶ Nu-hi-hewet-kau'. To the left is a standing figure of the owner holding the staff and the sceptre.

The Central Panel: Only the upper section is preserved, where a title and the name of the owner read: ... *smr pr Nw-hjj-ḥwt-k3w* '... , the companion of the house, Nu-hi-hewet-kau'.

Date: Dynasty 6.

TNE94:FD2. Pls. 24, 57.

Found in the debris approximately 2.00m. above the central part of *Ndt-m-pt*'s mastaba, the false door of *Hjj* is almost complete, except for the cavetto cornice which is partly broken above the torus moulding. It is decorated in incised, and now weathered, relief of poor style. W 31.0cm. present H 45.0cm.

The Upper Lintel: (1) *htp dj uswt dj Jnpw tpj [dw.f prt-hrw n] jmsḥw Hjj*¹³⁷ (2) *jmsḥw ḥr nb.f ... Hjj* '(1) An offering which the king gives and Anubis, who is on [his hill] gives. [May an invocation offering come forth for] the honoured one, Hi, (2) the honoured one before his lord ..., Hi'.

The Central Panel: The owner sits at an offering table and holds a perfume jar close to his nose. He is described as *jnj-r pr Hjj* 'The overseer of the house, Hi'.

The Right Outer Jamb: *jmsḥw ḥr Jnpw ḥntj zh-ntr jnj-r pr Hjj* 'The honoured one before Anubis, foremost of the divine booth, the overseer of the house, Hi'.

The Left Outer Jamb: *jmsḥw ḥr [Pth?] smr wʕtj Mnw-jnw(?)*¹³⁸ *ḏt.f*¹³⁹ *Hjj* 'The honoured one before [Ptah?] the sole companion, Min-inu(?), his ḏt, Hi'.

The Lower Lintel: *ḥmt.f [m]rt[.f] Wḏt ... n* 'His wife, his beloved, Wedjat ... n'.

The Right Inner Jamb: *jmsḥw ḥr ntr ʕ Hjj* 'The honoured one before the great god, Hi'.

¹³⁴ For the form *prt-hrw* see Lapp, *Opferformel*, §162.

¹³⁵ This name is unattested in Ranke, *Personennamen*, but a rather similar name, *Nw-ḥ-k3w* is found once in the tomb of *Pth-htp* (D62) at Saqqara (ibid 1, 182:29; Mariette, *Mastabas*, 352), dated to the reign of Djedkare (Bacr, *Rank and Title*, 74-75 [160]; Strudwick, *Administration*, 87-88 [49]).

¹³⁶ Fischer has observed that the last two titles are usually combined (*Dendera*, 98-99).

¹³⁷ Ranke, *Personennamen* 1, 233:16.

¹³⁸ Ibid, 151:16; vol. 2, 360. If this reading is correct the *nb.f* of *Hjj* is *Mnw-jnw*, the owner of a tomb recently discovered in the same area which dates most probably to the reign of Pepy I (to be published shortly).

¹³⁹ For the term *ḏt* see Menu-Harari, *CRIPEL* 2 [1974], 142ff.; Percepelkin, *Privateigentum*, passim.

The Left Inner Jamb: *jmšḥw ḥr nb.f Hjj* 'The honoured one before his lord, Hi'.

Date: Dynasty 6

TNE94:FD3. Pls. 25, 57.

Found in the debris of *Ndt-m-pt*'s tomb near TNE94:FD2, the complete false door of *Mr.s-ḥḥ* is of the type with torus moulding and cavetto cornice and has a T-shaped panel. Decorated in incised relief with minimum details, the owner is shown seated at an offering table on the panel and is depicted standing and holding a lotus flower to her nose at the bottom of each of the four jambs. W at base 30.0cm. W at top 31.0cm. H 52.0cm.

The Upper Lintel and Left Outer Jamb: The inscriptions on the former (1) continue on the latter (2). (1) *ḥtp dj nswt Jnpw tpj dw.f prt-ḥrw* (2) *n jmšḥw ḥr nṯr ʕ Mr.s-ḥḥ*¹⁴⁰ '(1) An offering which the king gives and Anubis, who is on his hill (gives). May an invocation offering come forth (2) for the honoured one before the great god, Meres-ankh'.

The Right Outer Jamb: *jmšḥw ḥr Pth Mr.s-ḥḥ* 'The honoured one before Ptah, Meres-ankh'.

The Central Panel: *ḥ3 t ḥ3 ḥnqt p3t ḥ3 ʔpd ḥ3 k3 ḥ3 šs ḥ3 mnḥt n Mr.s-ḥḥ* 'One thousand of bread, one thousand of beer and cake, one thousand of fowl, one thousand of oxen, one thousand of alabaster and one thousand of clothes, for Meres-ankh'.

Lower Lintel: *jmšḥw Mr.s-ḥḥ* 'The honoured one, Meres-ankh'.

The Inner Jambs: The same inscriptions are written on both inner jambs: *ḥkrt nswt Mr.s-ḥḥ* 'The royal ornament, Meres-ankh'.

Date: Pepy I, or later.

III OFFERING TABLES

The offering tables, both complete and incomplete, are of the type with a *ḥtp*-sign and two basins, except for OT3 which is a single basin with a flat rim.

TNE94:OT1. Pls. 26, 58.

A complete offering table inscribed for *Tmzj/Hrt-ḥm3-n-ḥrw* was found near the eastern wall of *Ndt-m-pt*'s mastaba at a height approximately 2.30m. above floor level. Inscriptions incised on the *ḥtp*-sign read: (1) *ḥtp dj nswt ḥtp dj Jnpw tpj dw.f prt-ḥrw n.f n jmšḥw Tmzj*¹⁴¹ (2) *jmšḥw ḥr nb.f [špsj] nswt ḥrj-ḥbt Hrt-ḥm3-n-ḥrw* '(1) An offering which the king gives and an offering which Anubis, who is on his hill, gives. May an invocation offering come forth for him, for the honoured one Tjemsj. (2) The honoured one before his lord, the nobleman of the king, the

¹⁴⁰ Ranke, *Personennamen* 1, 158:6.

¹⁴¹ Ibid, 391:10.

lector priest, Kheret-hema-en-kheru'. Each inscription ends with a seated figure of the owner. W 29.8cm. L 43.7cm.

TNE94:OT2. Pls. 26, 58.

The offering table of Zzj is broken on one side. Preserved between two basins is most of a vertical line of incised inscriptions ending with a seated figure determinative. It reads: *jmšhw hr Jnpw tpj đw.f Zzj*¹⁴² 'The honoured one before Anubis, who is on his hill, Sesi'. W 17.0cm. present max. L 22.0cm.

TNE94:OT3. Pls. 26, 58.

The right lower corner of a single offering basin retains inscriptions roughly incised on the flat rim around the edge. They read (1) ... *zš Jrj*¹⁴³ (2) *hmt.f j...* '(1) ... the scribe, Iri. (2) his wife, j....'. Present max. W 21.5cm. L 16.0cm.

TNE94:OT4. Pls. 27, 58.

A small fragment of an offering table has remains of a horizontal line of incised signs which reads: ... *pṛt-hrw Ftk-t*¹⁴⁴ '... invocation offerings (for) Feteket-ta'. Present max. W 8.5cm. L 10.0cm.

TNE94:OT5. Pls. 27, 58.

An offering table of *Sbkw* is damaged on three corners but retains most of its incised inscriptions. They read: (1) *jmšhw Sbkw*¹⁴⁵ (2) *hṭp dj nswt Jnpw tpj đw[.f]* ... '(1) The honoured one, Sebeku. (2) An offering which the king gives and Anubis, who is on his hill (gives) ...'. W 13.5cm. present max. L 16.5cm.

TNE94:OT6. Pl. 58.

Two pieces were found of a broken offering table, but the right side is missing. Little remains of two horizontal lines of incised inscriptions which read: (1) ... *pṛt-hrw* ... (2) ... *[jmšh]w hr Wsjr* ... '(1) ... invocation offerings (for)... (2) ... the honoured one before Osiris ...'. Present max. W 21.0cm. L 33.0cm.

TNE94:OT7. Pls. 27, 58.

The right half of an offering table inscribed in black ink only was found to the north of the mastaba of *Nḏt-m-pt* at a height of 2.00m. The single line of text begins: *hṭp dj nswt Jnpw tpj đw.f* ... 'An offering which the king gives and Anubis, who is on his hill (gives) ...'. W 26.3cm. present max. L 32.5cm.

TNE94:OT8. Pl. 58.

A complete offering table was found near the SE corner of *Nḏt-m-pt*'s mastaba at a height of approximately 3.00m. above floor level. Crudely incised for an official named *Hzzj* the inscriptions read: (1) *hṭp dj nswt Wsjr pṛt-hrw n špsj nswt jmšhw Hzzj*¹⁴⁶ (2) *jmšhw* ... '(1) An offering which the king gives and Osiris (gives). May an invocation offering come forth for the nobleman of the king, the honoured one, Hesi. (2) The honoured one ...'. W 32.0cm. L 36.0cm.

¹⁴² Ibid, 297:22.

¹⁴³ Ibid, 41:1.

¹⁴⁴ Ibid, 143:1.

¹⁴⁵ Ibid, 306:3.

¹⁴⁶ Ibid, 254:29.

IV FRAGMENTS

A great number of fragments found near to each other in the fill and debris above the central part of *Ndt-m-pt*'s tomb were formed of a hard, slate-coloured rock and had incised decoration of a similar style and size. Two (TNE94:F21, F43) bear the name *Jpj*,¹⁴⁷ and it is believed that the majority belong to the same monument. Their registration numbers are not in consecutive order and to facilitate study they have been grouped at the beginning of the following descriptions and their photographs and line drawings appear together on the same plates.

(TNE94:F4, 11, 13-14, 16-21, 26-27, 30-31, 37-38, 43, 45, 52, 64, 67-69, 76, 89 *Pls.* 28-30, 59)

TNE94:F4. Pls. 28, 59.

Parts of rows of an incised offering list with kneeling figure determinatives facing left. Blue-grey background. W 14.1cm. H 12.5cm. (joins F52 and belongs with F17, F20, F89)

TNE94:F11. Pls. 29, 59.

Lower left portion of false door with torus moulding; legs and feet of male figure facing right at bottom of jamb; no colour. W 16.7cm. H 12.5cm.

TNE94:F13-14. Pl. 59.

Two fragments fitting together show an offering table with food items piled above and a ewer and basin, jar, and tray with fruit below. Above the scene partially preserved signs read ... [*h3*] *t h3 hnqt h3 k3...*, and to the right a column of inscription retains the signs *dj, j* and *p* (*[h3p] dj [nswt] Jnpw?*). Loaves, base under table stand, jars and meat red; some yellow at top of offerings (vegetable?); traces of blue-green in signs. W 19.0cm. H 22.5cm.

TNE94:F16. Pl. 59.

Incised signs, including *t* and *d*, retaining no colour on red ground. W 9.1cm. H 4.6cm.

TNE94:F17. Pls. 28, 59.

Part of rows of offering list with incised signs and kneeling figure determinatives facing right to left of vertical banded frieze. Ground blue-grey; banded frieze with blocks of green-red-blue-green, etc. W 14.0cm. H 13.7cm. (joins F20)

TNE94:F18. Pls. 29, 59.

Remains of incised signs reading ... *Jnpw tpj dw.f...* on blue-grey ground, with some red discolouration. W 8.0cm. H 7.6cm.

TNE94:F19. Pl. 59.

Remains of incised signs reading *jnshwt Dhwtj...* on blue-grey ground. W 10.2cm. H 7.2cm. (similar in style to F18)

¹⁴⁷ Ibid, 22:15.

TNE94:F20. Pls. 28, 59.

Part of rows of incised offering list with kneeling figure determinatives and vertical banded frieze on right. Blue-grey ground; frieze with traces of green and red. W 12.7cm. H. 12.3cm. (joins F17 and F89)

TNE94:F21. Pls. 29, 59.

Fragment incised with *jm3hw* and the name *Ipj*, on blue-grey ground. W 17.1cm. H 7.5cm.

TNE94:F26. Pls. 29, 59.

Lower portion of offering table scene with base of stand, lower part of legs of seated figure and leg of chair. Greyish background, legs red. W 16.0cm. H 13.6cm. (joins with F27)

TNE94:F27. Pls. 29, 59.

Torso and arms of male figure seated on a chair. Skin red. W 15.4cm. H 15.0cm. (joins F26)

TNE94:F30. Pl. 59.

Parts of large incised signs *d-t-n-n* ; no colour. W 8.0cm. H 7.8cm.

TNE94:F31. Pls. 30, 59.

Part of right hand column of incised inscription; no colour. W 8.3cm. x 16.5cm. (face); W 16.5cm. x H 23.0cm. (whole).

TNE94:F37 and 45. Pl. 59.

Two fragments from the upper right jamb of a false door with banded frieze, torus moulding. The single sign preserved, an incised *sw*, is the beginning of the *htp dj nswt* formula. Background blue-grey, torus moulding and frame red, frieze banded in orange-red, blue and dark red. W 23.0cm. H 32.5cm.

TNE94:F38. Pls. 30, 59.

Parts of two male standing figures facing left each carrying a staff in right hand, the first wearing a long pointed kilt, collar and short cap wig, the second (less complete) wears a short pointed kilt. Probably from right jambs of false door. Blue-grey background, skin red. W 25.0cm. H 16.8cm.

TNE94:F43. Pls. 30, 59.

End of horizontal line of incised signs reading ... *n [j]m3hw Ipj*; no colour. W 14.6cm. H 15.0cm.

TNE94:F45. See TNE94:37

TNE94:F52. Pls. 28, 59.

Parts of registers of an incised offering list with kneeling figure determinatives, beneath a horizontal banded frieze. Blue-grey ground. W 15.5cm. H 18.7cm. (joins F4)

TNE94:F64. Pl. 59.

Fragment of corner piece with part of the incised sign *w* on one side and vertical banded frieze and cornice on other. Blue-grey background; bird, register and column lines red, frieze blocks retain red and yellow, frame orange-red, cornice leaf green. Right side W 10.7cm. H 11.5cm., left W 4.0cm. H 15.9cm.

TNE94:F67. Pls. 30, 59.

Incised *wḏt* eye above line of inscription (sign *j*?). Pale blue-green on blue-grey ground. W 10.7cm. H 18.2cm.

TNE94:F68. Pls. 30, 59.

Incised inscription *jmb[hw]* below the items *t hnt k3 3pd*. Blue-grey ground, blue in signs. W 11.5cm. H 13.0cm.

TNE94:F69. Pl. 59.

Corner of false door cornice with red and blue leaves, sign for *dj* with traces of blue. W 20.0cm. H 11.0cm. (may fit with F68)

TNE94:F76. Pl. 59.

Corner piece with banded frieze on one side and traces of signs on the other; no colour. Right side W 7.3cm. H 13.0cm., left W 6.6cm. H 13.0cm.

TNE94:F89. Pl. 59.

Fragment of incised offering list with kneeling figure determinatives and vertical banded frieze. Blue-grey ground, traces of green in signs, green and red remaining on frieze blocks. W 8.0cm. H 8.5cm. (joins F20)

TNE94:F1. Pls. 31, 60.

Parts of piled offerings consisting of vegetables, fowl and a calf's head on a tray between two stands, that on the left retaining traces of red. W 17cm. H 16cm.

TNE94:F2. Pls. 31, 60.

Upper part of two columns of hieroglyphs, the first with the frame of a cartouche and the second reading *m3* with a correction/reversal of the first sign. In front of the inscription is preserved the raised arm of a female offering bearer holding, possibly on the head, a basket and a duck. Background dark grey; arm yellow, traces of blue on bracelet and beak of bird, traces of red on basket, orange-red ground to eye. Cartouche frame blue with traces of illegible blue hieroglyphs on red ground. W 24.7cm. H 14.5cm.

TNE94:F5. Pl. 60.

Lower legs and feet of a man facing left; fragments of horizontal line of hieroglyphic signs remain at top of register beneath. Skin red. W 21.7cm. H 10.0cm.

TNE94:F6. Pl. 60.

Part of three columns of signs; no colour. W 16.5cm. H 7.8cm.

TNE94:F8. Pls. 31, 60.

Partially preserved cartouche of Neferkare in column of signs; no colour. W 9.0cm. H 8.8cm.

TNE94:F22. Pl. 60.

Head and shoulders of man with short curly wig facing left, with bundles of folded linen on shoulders; no colour. W 16.0cm. H 6.8cm.

TNE94:F23. Pl. 60.

Remains of signs in horizontal inscription above horns of two goats facing right. Dark grey ground, dark yellow on signs for *slt* and *j*. W 8.5cm. H 7.6cm.

TNE94:F25. Pl. 60.

Corner piece with vertical banded frieze along one edge, with sign *j* to left, and on other side remains of larger incised signs in vertical column, including *r* and *sw*; no colour. Right side W 9.0cm. H. 28.7cm., left W 8.6cm. H 28.0cm. This fragment is possibly from the left side of the false door niche of *K3(.j)-pr(w)*.

TNE94:F32. Pl. 60.

Part of large *sw* sign, very deeply incised; no colour. W 41.0cm. H 9.8cm. The size and depth of the inscription resembles that on the façades of the mastabas of *Mrrw-k3.j* and *K3-gm-n.j*.

TNE94:F33. Pl. 60.

Remains of two standing figures facing left: of the first only left arm remains; the second carries objects over crook of each arm and holds another in left hand; no colour. W 29.0cm. H 6.5cm.

TNE94:F34. Pl. 60.

Fragment with piled offerings and incised offering list to the right; no colour. W 20.0cm. H 19.5cm.

TNE94:F35. Pl. 60.

Remains of two columns of incised inscription which retain the signs *j*, *s* and *w*; no colour. W 18.6cm. H 4.2cm.

TNE94:F36. Pl. 60.

Remains of three columns of incised inscription retaining several signs; no colour. W 27.0cm. H 6.3cm. (may belong with F35)

TNE94:F40. Pl. 60.

Remains of horizontal register retaining signs reading *m pr dt.f prt-hrw*; no colour. W 32.5cm. H 10.0cm.

TNE94:F41. Pl. 60.

Lower legs of standing male figure facing right and hand of another figure facing left, each hold a pestle and between them is a mortar. Blue-grey ground, red skin. W 12.6cm. H 14.6cm.

TNE94:F47. Pl. 60.

Lower part of legs of male figure facing left; beneath register line are remains of the upper part of horizontal line of hieroglyphic inscription. Background blue-grey, skin red. W 45.3cm. H 10.8cm. (may belong with F48 and perhaps F5)

TNE94:F48. Pl. 60.

Lower part of two pairs of legs of male figures and the front part of the foot of a third, facing left. Blue-grey ground, red skin. W 33.5cm. H 11.0cm. (similar to F47)

TNE94:F53. Pl. 60.

Incised sign *t*; no colour. W 9.0cm. H 9.0cm. Possibly from sarcophagus of *K3(.j)-pr(w)*.

TNE94:F55. Pl. 61.

Part of horizontal line of large incised signs of a seated deity followed by *hṯp*: no colour. W 24.0cm. H 36.9cm.

TNE94:F56. Pl. 61.

Piled offerings on a tray resting on an extended, upturned arm. Skin red, nail white. W 6.4cm. H 11.5cm.

TNE94:F57. Pl. 61.

Fragment with part of small offering table with containers below on either side of stand; directly above the table is a horizontal line of incised inscriptions retaining *shd ... pr-3*; at top probably another horizontal line of larger signs but only the stand of Anubis is preserved. Loaves yellow. W 4.4cm. H 15.5cm.

TNE94:F59. Pl. 61.

Corner fragment with vertical incised inscription *nb.f* and perhaps falcon determinative on one side. Traces of light blue-green in signs. W 16.2cm. H 9.7cm.

TNE94:F60. Pl. 61.

Parts of three columns of inscriptions including 1) *j-p-n* 2) part of a bird 3) part of *n*; no colour. W 9.0cm. H 8.5cm.

TNE94:F62. Pl. 61.

Fragment from a (fowling?) scene of birds eating grain; no colour. W 12.3cm. H 5.7cm. (probably from same as F63)

TNE94:F63. Pl. 61.

Fragment with bird and grain; no colour. W 2.6cm. H. 9.0cm. (probably belongs with F62)

TNE94:F66. Pl. 61.

Fragment with hand holding oval object, possibly from scene of picking fruit. Traces of red on hand. W 5.5cm. H 9.4cm.

TNE94:F72. Pl. 61.

Lower part of a pair of legs walking right; in register below remains of large signs include *r*; no colour. W 5.6cm. H 21.0cm.

TNE94:F75. Pl. 61.

Torso and arms of male figure wearing a kilt, facing left. Traces of red on skin. W 13.6cm. H 11.2cm.

TNE94:F77. Pl. 61.

Part of horizontal register with incised *ntr* sign and seated god determinative; no colour. W 10.8cm. H 15.0cm.

TNE94:F81. Pl. 61.

Part of an inscription including *t*, bird (probably 3) and a cartouche with sign *t*, probably of Teti; no colour. W 6.4cm. H 7.0cm.

TNE94:F86. Pl. 61.

Parts of two columns with incised signs 1) *b, tp* (possibly *hrj-ḥbt hrj-tp*) 2) *m?*, *t* and *zš*; no colour. W 15.5cm. H 8.4cm.

TNE94:F88. Pls. 31, 61.

Panther's head; no colour. W 5.5cm. H 8.7cm.

TNE94:F91. Pl. 61.

Part of column with signs reading *jmshw*; traces of relief decoration on right; no colour. W 11.0cm. H 20.0cm.

TNE94:F94. Pl. 61.

Part of two columns of inscriptions, one with *htp* signs and the other with legs and lower body of quail chick; no colour. W 29.0cm. H 11.2cm.

TNE94:F95. Pl. 61.

Fish; no colour. W 11.2cm. H 6.5cm.

TNE94:F96. Pl. 61.

Top part of a pile of offerings including lettuce, ribs and a jar; no colour. W 25.4cm. H 18.0cm.

TNE94:F97. Pl. 61.

Leg of a striding male figure wearing a kilt, holding an object in the left hand. Leg painted red, black register line with red beneath. W 7.9cm. H 16.5cm.

TNE94:F98. Pl. 61.

Remains of one column of incised signs *s(mr) wtj*; on red ground. W 12.0cm. H 27.5cm.

TNE94:F107. Pls. 31-32, 62.

Fragments of false door found in fill of a shaft abutting the south wall of *Ndt-m-pt*'s mastaba. Incised signs blue, base and column lines black, torus lashing black, cornice leaves white, red, blue, outlined in black.

- a) horizontal line of signs reading *jmsḥw*. W 20.2cm. H 12.2cm.
- b) *[ḥ]r [P]tḥ [ḥ]r* above cavetto cornice. W 17.7cm. H 9.9cm.
- c) *jj* above cavetto cornice. W 9.6cm. H 8.0cm.
- d) three loaves from an offering table and the items *..ḥ3 3pd ḥ3 t ḥnqt*. W 8.9cm. H 10.3cm.
- e) *smr*. W 6.4cm. H 6.3cm.
- f) parts of 3 registers of signs 1) *m jms[ḥw]* 2) *m Zkr* 3) *n - b? - j*. W 17.0cm. H 10.5cm.
- g) Anubis on stand. W 6.9cm. H 4.6cm.
- h) torus moulding. W 8.2cm. H 16.7cm.
- i) horizontal line retaining sign *r*, above cavetto. W 17.0cm. H 8.8cm.
- j) *w - t?* beneath black register line. W 13.7cm. H 5.0cm.
- k) *d* beneath black register line. W 10.8cm. H 6.3cm.
- l) part of (*smr*) *wṯj* and *jmj-(r)*. W 8.5cm. H 3.8cm.

TNE94:F108. Pls. 32, 62.

Head and shoulders of male figure facing right followed by another, only the face remaining, who carries a small gazelle. Red on face, black on hair. W 13.0cm. H 16.2cm. (found south of *Ndt-m-pt*)

TNE94:F111. Pl. 62.

Middle part of the bodies of two male figures wearing plain kilts; no colour. W 7.1cm. H 8.3cm.

TNE94:F113. Pl. 62.

Parts of line of incised signs *njwt - nb - t3*; pale pink in signs. W 8.6cm. H 8.0cm.

TNE94:F115. Pls. 32, 62.

Parts of four horizontal lines of incised signs. Some traces of yellow. W 33.5cm. H 37.3cm.

TNE94:118-119. Pls. 33, 63.

Two large limestone blocks which fit one above the other were found near each other at the southern end of *Ndt-m-pt*'s mastaba at a height of 2.30m. above floor level. Decorated on two sides with incised hieroglyphs, there is at present no trace of colour on either piece. These corner elements probably formed part of one side of a false door niche.¹⁴⁸ A single column of hieroglyphs on the thickness reads: *smr wṯj ḥrj-ḥbt jmsḥw Ttj-ḥ3-jst*.¹⁴⁹ 'The sole companion, the lector priest, the honoured one, Teti-ha-ishetef'. Beneath the column is a standing figure of the owner who wears a shoulder-length wig, a beard and a pointed kilt. The inscription on the jamb is damaged, but may be amended as *[jj.n.j m njw]t(.j) [ḥ3.n(.j) [m] spst(.j) jr.n(.j) [m3]t mrrt ntr s[ḥtp].n[.j sw] ... rrj* 'I came from my town and descended from my province. I carried out justice which the god loves. I satisfied him ... rri'. W at base of thickness 48.0cm. of jamb 9.9cm. W at top of thickness 33.5cm. of jamb 7.8cm. H at corner 108.4cm.

¹⁴⁸ See El-Khouli - Kanawati, *Saqqara* 2, pls. 20-21, for comparison.

¹⁴⁹ Ranke, *Personennamen* 2, 330:16. The name is attested elsewhere in the cemetery (e.g. Porter - Moss, *Bibliography* 3:2, 548, 563).

TNE94:F123. Pl. 64.

The right end of a door lintel with a single line of hieroglyphs with some details was found SW of *Ndt-m-pt*'s mastaba at a height of 1.50m. The inscriptions read: *hrj š n mrt-Tlj zš n z3 pr-3 ...* 'He who is in charge of the lake of the Meret-temple of Teti, the scribe of the phyle of the palace ...'. W 71.0cm. H 11.0cm.

TNE95:F128. Pls. 34, 64.

(F2.11, F2.12) Two decorated blocks which fit together, retaining lower parts of four offering bearers proceeding to right, each wearing a plain short kilt and carrying a foreleg. Red paint remains on skin. W 68.0cm. H 19.5cm.

TNE95:F129. Pls. 34, 64.

(C4.2, C5.4) Two fragments which fit together of false door with vertical torus moulding and the remains on the left outer jamb of one column of incised signs which read ... *k3.f [hr] w3wt dsr(w)t ...* '... his ka on the sacred roads ...'. Some red colour on torus. W 15.0cm. H 25.2cm.

TNE95:F130. Pl. 64.

(C4.1) Remains of three lines of incised signs: 1) ... *qrs.f ...* 2) ... *n hrw nb ...* 3) ... *m jst(?)f ...* . W 20.0cm. H 25.0cm. (TNE95:F130-133, 135 possibly belong to the same object)

TNE95:F131. Pl. 64.

(E4.4) Parts of two registers with incised, weathered signs: 1) ...*w...r ...* 2) ... *W3g ...* . W 11.5cm. H 19.0cm.

TNE95:F132. Pl. 64.

(E3.1) Part of register with incised signs ... *pn* . W 10.3cm. H 8.2cm.

TNE95:F133. Pl. 64.

(E3.4) Parts of three registers with incised signs: 1) ... 2) ... *hr smjt ...* 3) ... *w mr...* . W 9.0cm. H 23.0cm.

TNE95:F135. Pl. 64.

(F2.10) Parts of three registers with incised signs: 1) ... *jm3hw(?) hr ...* 2) ... *m htp hr ...* 3) ...*r...* . W 17.0cm. H 16.0cm.

TNE95:F136. Pls. 34, 64.

(E3.2) Scene in marsh with front part of papyrus boat, weed beneath, and two unclothed male figures with lock of youth standing on the deck both holding a bird by the wings in each of their hands. In front of them, and behind the boat, is probably the papyrus marsh, with one drooping umbel and part of a bird in flight. No colour. W 31.0cm. H 24.5cm.

TNE95:F137. Pl. 64.

(E4.13) Thick block of limestone with parts of two vertical columns of clearly incised signs 1) ... *n tn ...* 2) ... *m mjtt r ...* . No colour. W 16.5cm. H 11.4cm.

TNE95:F138. Pl. 64.

(E4.45) Fragment with torso of offering bearer facing right with right arm at side and left holding young calf(?). Background blue-grey, skin red. W 10.0cm. H 8.4cm.

TNE95:F139. Pl. 64.

(H2.5) Offerings, with jar which retains red paint on lower half and black at top. W 16.0cm. H 21.7cm.

TNE95:F140. Pl. 64.

(E4.46)) Piled offerings, jar at left with red on lower part and black on top, ribs red, loaves yellow, onions stems white/no colour and bulbs red with red outline. W 27.0cm. H 9.7cm.

TNE95:F141. Pls. 34, 64.

(F1.8) Thick limestone block with kilt and foot of incised male figure facing right and wearing a calf-length pointed kilt and holding a staff. The end of a column of inscription in front of the figure retains a few signs, possibly the name *Imj*.¹⁵⁰ No colour. W 18.2cm. H 21.0cm.

TNE95:F142. Pl. 64.

(F2.17) Part of large incised signs in two columns; no colour. W 13.0cm. H 7.5cm.

¹⁵⁰ Ranke, *Personennamen* 1, 391:1.

APPENDIX

THE MASTABA OF GEREF/ITJI

A short season of excavations was conducted during April-May 1994 with the purpose of completing work in our earlier concession to the north of the mastaba of *Mrrw-k3.j*¹⁵¹ before the start of the present project. The excavations revealed a continuous mud brick wall built immediately on the native rock and extending east-west at the northern end of the site. If the same wall is found to be extending further east, under the current excavations, it would indicate some kind of enclosure wall partly or completely surrounding the cemetery. The two large stone jambs (?) still standing to the south of the 'rue de tombeaux' might have originally formed an entrance to the cemetery and not simply to this street of tombs.

Clearing the north-eastern section of the concession¹⁵² revealed also a part of a mud brick rectangular offering chamber with an inscribed limestone false door which had fallen to the ground. As the greater part of the mastaba lies outside our concession,¹⁵³ it was not possible to complete its clearance and to produce architectural plans. The false door of *Grf/Itj* is published here with some additional information on his family gained from a photograph of an architrave found in the near vicinity,¹⁵⁴ and belonging to a man with identical names and titles to the owner of the false door.

I THE TOMB OWNER AND HIS FAMILY

The Tomb Owner

NAMES

- 1- *Grf*¹⁵⁵ 'Geref'.
- 2- *Itj*¹⁵⁶ 'Itji'.

¹⁵¹ For a report on the results of these excavations see Kanawati et al, *Saqqara* 1; El-Khouli - Kanawati, *Saqqara* 2.

¹⁵² Ibid, pl. 1.

¹⁵³ The area to the east of this concession and to the west of the current project, i.e. immediately to the north of the mastaba of *K3-gm-n.j*, was excavated by M. Ahder-Raziq of the Egyptian Antiquities Organisation, who has now resumed his work under the auspices of the University of the Suez Canal.

¹⁵⁴ Courtesy of Mr. Hasaballa el-Tayeb, photographer at Saqqara. The inscriptions in seven horizontal lines, are similar to those on the architrave of *Mhj* (El-Khouli - Kanawati, *Saqqara* 2, pl. 6), while the arrangement of the family group to the left is similar to that on the architrave of *Jrj* (ibid, pl. 3). The three tombs are within close proximity of each other.

¹⁵⁵ The name is unattested in Ranke, *Personennamen*.

¹⁵⁶ Ibid 1, 52:29.

TITLES

- 1- *jmj-r j'w-r nb nswt djdjw pt qm3w t3* 'overseer of all the king's breakfast, and of that which heaven gives and earth produces'.
- 2- *jmj-r phww* 'overseer of the marshlands'.
- 3- *jmj-r hwt-jhwt* 'overseer of the cattle estate'.¹⁵⁷
- 4- *jmj-r sltj htp(t)* 'overseer of the two fields of offerings'.¹⁵⁸
- 5- *jmj-r sqbbwj pr-3* 'overseer of the two cool chambers of the palace'.¹⁵⁹
- 6- *jmj-r sn t3 nb* 'overseer of all vegetation'.¹⁶⁰
- 7- *jmj-r st* 'overseer of a department'.
- 8- *jrj nfr h3t* 'keeper of the headdress'.
- 9- *hm-ntr dd-swt-Ttj* 'priest of the pyramid "One steadfast of places is Teti"'.¹⁶¹
- 10- *hrj-s3b n nswt m st.f nb(t)* 'privy to the secrets of the king in his every place'.
- 11- *smr w3tj* 'sole companion'.
- 12- *smr pr* 'companion of the house'.
- 13- *špsj nswt* 'nobleman of the king'.¹⁶¹

Grf's titles seem consistent with his responsibilities in attending at the king in the morning. He was responsible for the bathrooms in the palace, for the royal headdress, for the king's breakfast and as such was in charge of certain sources - the marshlands, the fields of offerings, the vegetation and of all that heaven gives and earth produces.

The Wife of Geref

NAMES

- 1- , *Wnt-nfrt*¹⁶² 'Wenet-nefert'.
- 2- , *Wntw*¹⁶³ 'Wentu'. This name is described as *rn.s nfr* 'her beautiful name'. The wife is depicted on the architrave, equal in size to her husband, with one hand on his shoulder and the other holding his arm. She is described as *hmt.f* 'his wife'.

TITLES

- 1- *rht nswt* 'acquaintance of the king'.
- 2- *hm(t)-ntr Hwt-hr* 'priestess of Hathor'.

¹⁵⁷ Fischer, *Ip*, 22-23, no. 5. Some examples of *hwt jhwt* seem to refer to the capital of Nome 3 of Lower Egypt (Helck, *Gaue*, 153-55; Zibelius, *Siedlungen*, 149-51; Lloyd et al., *Saqqâra Tombs 2*, 24 n.3).

¹⁵⁸ For this reading see Kanawti et al., *Saqqara 1*, 15, 19 n.11; Fischer, *Ip*, 23, no. 8. Lloyd et al., translate as 'overseer of the offering of the two Sekhets', and see the *Sljt* as the 'Fen-goddess' and the dual number representing a division into west and east of the Delta, the marshes in each being under the protection of a *Sljt* (*Saqqâra Tombs 2*, 24 n.4).

¹⁵⁹ For the reading of this title see *ibid*, 7, pl. 9, where *sqbbwj* is written phonetically.

¹⁶⁰ Helck, *Beamtentitel*, 66; Fischer, *Dendera*, 172, 234; *idem*, *Ip*, 23, no. 6. The title is also translated as 'overseer of all hair of the earth' (Lloyd et al., *Saqqâra Tombs 2*, 7).

¹⁶¹ The title is usually combined with that of *smr pr* (Fischer, *Dendera*, 98-99).

¹⁶² Only the masculine form of the name is attested in Ranke, *Personennamen 1*, 79:19.

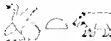
¹⁶³ *Ibid*, 80:12.

The Son of Geref

, *Stj-ꜥnh*¹⁶⁴ 'Setji-ankh'. Described as *z3.f* 'his son', a small figure is depicted on the architrave before *Grf* and holding on to his staff.

The Mother of Geref

NAMES

- 1-  *T3t-db*¹⁶⁵ 'Tjat-deb'.
- 2-  *Mrt-jt.s*¹⁶⁶ 'Meret-ites'.
- 3-  *Hfdt*¹⁶⁷ 'Khefdjet'.

The tomb owner is designated on his false door as *Grf njsw m Itj jr n T3t-db* 'Geref, who is called Itji, born to Tjat-deb'. In line 6 on the architrave he is described as *Grf njsw m Itj jr n Mrt-jt.s* 'Geref, who is called Itji, born to Meret-ites', and above the family group on the same architrave he is *Grf jr n Hfdt* 'Geref, born to Khefdjet'. There can be no doubt that the three names belonged to the same woman, but it is interesting that he referred to his mother three times, each with a different name.¹⁶⁸

II DATING OF GEREF

The excellent style of inscriptions on the architrave (unlike those on the false door) and their similarity to other inscriptions in the vicinity, the shape of the false door and particularly its elongated panel,¹⁶⁹ and the proximity of the tomb to other better dated mastabas in the area suggest a date at the end of Teti's reign or early under Pepy I.

III SCENES AND INSCRIPTIONS

Pls. 35, 65.

As indicated above, only the false door was discovered by our expedition. Formed of one piece of limestone, this door is of the type with cavetto cornice and torus moulding. The upper lintel is uninscribed, the remainder of the door is decorated in incised relief with no details. The standing figures of the owner at the

¹⁶⁴ Ibid, 322:19.

¹⁶⁵ The name is unattested in *ibid*.

¹⁶⁶ Ibid 1, 158:8.

¹⁶⁷ The name is unattested in *ibid*.

¹⁶⁸ Although *Mhj*, owner of a neighbouring tomb, referred to himself only as *jr n Hntj* 'born to Khenti' (El-Khouli - Kanawati, *Saqqara* 2, pl. 6), a small false door in his chapel, possibly belonging to his mother, shows that she had two names, *Hntj* and *Ttj* (*ibid*, pl. 9).

¹⁶⁹ Strudwick, *Administration*, 18. For some examples see Junker, *Giza* 8, figs. 32, 34; James, *Khentika*, pls. 18-19; El-Khouli - Kanawati, *Saqqara* 2, pl. 11; Abder-Raziq, *Mélanges* 2, pl. 1.

bottom of each jamb are for the most part left unfinished, in black paint only, and so are the lashings on the torus moulding. All standing figures of *Grf* wear shoulder-length wigs and projecting kilts. Six figures hold a staff in one hand and a cloth in the other, while two, those on the inner jambs, have their hands by their sides.

The Central Panel: The tomb owner sits on a chair with lion's legs and a low back. He stretches his right hand to an offering table with eight half-loaves of bread while placing his left hand on his chest. Beneath the table on the opposite side is a ewer in a basin placed on a stand. Above the scene is written: *špsj nswt jmj-r st Grf* 'The nobleman of the king, the overseer of a department, Geref'. ... *h3 mnht h3 k3* '..., one thousand of clothes, one thousand of oxen'.

The Middle Lintel: Two horizontal (1-2) and one vertical (3) lines of hieroglyphs read: (1) *jmshw hr ntr 3* (2) *jmshw hr Wsjr* (3) *špsj nswt Grf* '(1) The honoured one before the great god, (2) the honoured one before Osiris, (3) the nobleman of the king, Geref'. To the left is a seated figure of the tomb owner holding a staff.

The Lower Lintel: *špsj nswt Grf* 'The nobleman of the king, Geref'. To the left is a similar figure to that on the middle lintel.

The Right Outer Jamb: (1) *smr wtj špsj nswt mrrw nb.f hrj-sšt3 n nswt m st.f nb(t) mr(w).f hrr r-nb¹⁷⁰ špsj nswt Grf* (2) *jmj-r sqbbwj pr-3 jmj-r jcw-r nb nswt djdw pt qmw t3 jmj-r šhtj htp(t) Itj* '(1) The sole companion, the nobleman of the king, beloved of his lord, he who is privy to the secrets of the king in his every place, whom he loves, one who satisfies every person, the nobleman of the king, Geref, (2) the overseer of the two cool chambers of the palace, the overseer of all the king's breakfast, and of that which heaven gives and earth produces, the overseer of the two fields of offerings, Itji'.

The Left Outer Jamb: Two horizontal (1-2) and two vertical (3-4) lines of hieroglyphs read: (1) *jmshjj pw* (2) *rmš nb dd.t(j).f* (3) *t hnt n špsj nswt Grf njsw m Itj jr n T3t-db rn.f nfr Itj* (4) *jnk js (j sic.) jmshw mj wnt ddt jr tp t3 jnk wnt jr htp sb jmsh Grf* '(1) An honoured one he is (2) any man who will say: (3) bread and beer for the nobleman of the king, Geref, who is called Itji, born to Tjat-deb, his beautiful name, Itji. (4) I was indeed an honoured one, as that which was said upon earth. I was indeed one who achieved graciousness and who attained honours, Geref'.

The Right Middle Jamb: *jmj-r phw w jmj-r hwt-jhwt jmj-r st Itj* 'The overseer of the marshlands, the overseer of the cattle estate, the overseer of a department, Itji'.

The Left Middle Jamb: *jmj-r st špsj nswt smr pr smr wtj jrj nfr h3t Grf* 'The overseer of a department, the nobleman of the king, the companion of the house, the sole companion, the keeper of the headdress, Geref'.

The Right Inner Jamb: *hm-ntr dd-swt-Ttj špsj nswt Grf* 'The priest of the pyramid "One steadfast of places is Teti", the nobleman of the king, Geref'.

170 For  jeder Mund = jedermann see *Wb* 2, 390:3, where the earliest attested examples are from Dynasty 18.

The Left Inner Jamb: *smr w^ctj jmj-r šn t3 nb hrj-sšt3 n nswt m st.f nbt špsj nswt*
Itj 'The sole companion, the overseer of all vegetation, he who is privy to the
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